

Immigration Into France

By MAURICE CARR

PARIS.—The flow of Jewish immigration into France from North Africa has steadily risen in the past months and is beginning to assume the proportions of a major refugee problem. Although the French Social Unit, French Jewry's central fund-raising and distributing agency, devotes a quarter of its total budget to relief for the North African Jewish newcomers, and is bracing itself for greater efforts, the point may soon be reached—some responsible communal leaders think it has been attained—where assistance from the French authorities and from international Jewish organizations becomes indispensable.

No precise statistics on the current North African Jewish influx into France are available, since the immigrants are free to enter the country without visas and are arriving "under their own steam." It is, however, possible to gauge the rate if not the volume of the inflow from the number of new cases dealt with by Parisian Jewish welfare bodies. "Thus, three times as many North African Jewish families applied for help to the Comité Juif de Bienfaisance (Jewish Philanthropic Committee) here in the first nine months of this year as compared with the same period last year. While only 50 new immigrants registered with the Comité last January, the figure has been going up all the time—exceeding the 200 mark in September.

Few Moroccans

For every Jew from Morocco there have been two from Algeria and three from Tunisia. Only the minority of Jews in Morocco that enjoy the privilege of French citizenship can gain admission to France. On the other hand, the gates are wide open to Algerian Jews, who are all French citizens, and to Tunisian Jews who, even if they are not French, have the right of entry. According to the detailed case histories of the Comité, it is primarily economic hardship and to a lesser extent, political insecurity, which impel these Jews to abandon their old homes and seek their fortune in France. Many of them, after selling up their possessions, have barely enough money to pay their fares and are destitute when they get here. Others have sufficient funds to subsist for a few weeks. The majority are for the "most part" eager and fit for work, and are proving themselves highly adaptable; but their great difficulty is to find suitable living quarters.

The most pressing need is for proper reception centres to which all Jews arriving from North Africa could gravitate, although it is feared that if too many facilities are laid on, the stream of immigration will turn into a torrent. At present, an unknown large number of Jews are turning to non-Jewish welfare organizations for aid.

HEARD ABROAD

Nothing has been decided yet, but I can say that the Government is absolutely unimpressed by French Cabinet Minister Pierre July, to the press.

I thought it most surprising of the B.M.C. to broadcast drastically immediately after the above.

LA Col. G.A. Brett (in a letter to the "Daily Telegraph").

Psychiatry is about as advanced as chemistry was in the days of Priestley, and probably the special studies of children are not far behind.

Mr. W.T. Craig, Children's Officer of Liverpool.

If your sons are not inclined to the Church, send them to journalism. Their future will be assured. —Lord Beaverbrook, addressing the Council of the Maritime Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada.



Stepping Stone to Israel for thousands of immigrants from North Africa is a camp located at the port of Marseilles, France. At this camp the immigrants are processed and oriented for life in new settlements before taking a ship to Haifa. During 1954 it is planned to bring in 45,000 from North Africa. The montage above shows scenes of the transitory period at Marseilles. TOP ROW (left to right): While women and their children do the family wash in one of the Nissen-type huts, the men-folk queue up to receive coats. SECOND ROW: In the camp hospital a sick child, crying the photographer suspiciously, receives drops from a pretty nurse. The head of the

Photos by Schlesinger

family is registered with a thumb print in place of a signature. THIRD ROW: At a morning meeting on the camp grounds, the immigrants gather for the daily flag-raising ceremony and to hear news of their forthcoming departure. Meanwhile, a barber sets up shop in the open next to a tree and does a thriving business. BOTTOM ROW: Women peel baskets of carrots for the noon meal, while the men with sandals off sit on a rug outside their hut for a study session. The U.A. mission which arrived yesterday for an eight-day tour will study Israel's needs with regard to the immigration of these North Africans and the thousands who will follow them.

What's New

By DAREN BEN AMOTZ

WE were invited for dinner one night last week to the home of some painter friends of ours in Jerusalem. Benasai (Lilik) and Louise Schatz. The chef de soir was an old friend of theirs from the remote artist colony of Big Sur in California, a very small gentleman, soft-eyed and soft-spoken, with short-cropped grey hair. We were happy to meet this small gentleman as we had already heard a great deal about him and his artistic as well as his culinary talents. We had also heard the story of his arrival in Israel a couple of days before, which struck us as unusual, to say the least. He had been living in Italy for the past six months or so and had decided on the spur of a nostalgic twinge to hop over the Mediterranean to say hello to his old friends and see what had been going on in the Holy Land since he last visited here some 25 years ago. He sent off an express letter to the Schatzes, but he arrived several days before the letter. When no Schatz appeared to meet him at Lydda in the middle of the night, he went off to Tel Aviv for a short sleep, then came to Jerusalem around noon the next day. Feeling a little hungry, he decided to go straight to the Schatzes for lunch so he asked a passer-by for directions to Bak's. He was told to take a Number 6 bus, which he did, and who should be on the bus, but his old neighbour from Big Sur, Benasai Schatz, Lilik was somewhat overcome at the unexpected reunion but he wasn't too surprised. "Benny has such a way of turning up," he said, "that if you're a friend of his, you finally get used to it."

Benny is more formally known to America and elsewhere as Beniamino Benvenuto Bufano, sculptor extraordinaire, Italian-born, he went with his family to New York at the age of three and by the time he was 18 or so was already known as a talented young sculptor. His fame skyrocketed a couple of years later,

however, when, in protest against America's entrance into World War I, he chopped off half his right forefinger and sent it to President Wilson. Patriotic New Yorkers responded by destroying Benny's Greenwich Village studio. Peace-loving Benny responded by setting out on a 15-year tour of the world, ending up in the early Thirties in San Francisco where he has been living on and off, ever since. He was for some years the Art Commissioner of that city, but he is best known and loved there for his sculptures.

Benny told us that he'd found the Russians much less stuffy about their borders when he'd arrived in Israel wearing a few weeks ago. Nobody said a word to him until he was arrested in a Soviet Army camp some 20 miles inside the eastern sector. "They put me in very nice solitary confinement for about 12 hours," he said, "and then they sent in a beautiful girl officer to interpret for me. When I told her I was an artist, they offered me vodka and took me to dinner at an officers' club and sent me back to West Berlin."

It occurred to us that one reason Benny may have less trouble than most people in wandering over borders is that he looks less like an American tourist than anyone we ever saw. He arrived in Israel wearing a black sweat-shirt and grey slacks, and his only baggage was a paper-wrapped package containing the proofs of a book of reproductions of his works which is soon to be published in Italy and a small canvas satchel containing a Japanese kimono of printed cotton, a toothbrush, a razor and a handful of mosaic stones. He won't be travelling quite so light when he goes back to San Francisco in a couple of months, however, as he will be taking with him the makings of three new statues.

said, "but they won't let you walk here. I looked around your city for a while yesterday afternoon, and then I decided to seek around the Old City, but when I started to climb over a big heap of stones and barbed wire a policeman grabbed me and wouldn't let me go. I tried to persuade him I just wanted to walk around a little on the other side, but he wouldn't listen to me so I came back home."

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"They'll be the first three-dimensional mosaic ever made," he said. "I'll sculpt the basic forms in cement and then cover the outside completely with mosaic. Two of the statues will be about four metres high and one 25 metres, and it takes 15 kilos of mosaic to cover one square metre so it'll be pretty heavy to ship. No one in San Francisco knows about the new statues yet, it'll be a big surprise."

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From the Memoirs of *Harry Truman* The Year of Decisions

The Seeds of the Cold War

AT the eighth session of the Heads of Government (at Potsdam) on July 24, we were again dealing with the question of peace treaties and interim arrangements with Italy and the other satellites. I had agreed to include the Eastern satellites in a redraft of my original proposal and this new version was now placed before us by Secretary Byrnes.

The most bitter debate of the conference now developed, the point at issue being that Stalin wanted us to recognize the puppet governments that he had installed in the satellite countries overrun by the Russian armies. Stalin said an abnormal distinction was being drawn between Italy and the other satellite States, as if Rumania, Bulgaria, Hungary and Finland belonged in the category of leprosy States.

In such a distinction, he saw a danger that attempts would be made to discredit the Soviet Union, and asked whether the Italian Government was any more democratic or responsible than the governments of the other countries. No democratic elections had been held in Italy, he said.

I replied that when Rumania, Bulgaria and Hungary were set up on a basis to give us free access to them, then we would recognize them, but not sooner. I was asking for the reorganization of the other satellite governments along democratic lines, as had been agreed upon at Yalta.

Stalin objected to the words, "responsible and democratic governments," in the draft, saying that they should be deleted as they served to discredit these countries. I pointed out that this language was necessary to show that the only way in which they could obtain our support for entry into the United Nations Organization was for them to have democratic governments.

Stalin said that these were not Fascist Governments. There was a far less democratic Government in Argentina, he pointed out, which in spite of this had been admitted into the United Nations.

Sympathy for Italy
Churchill said he would like to put in a plea for Italy. He said he had considerable sympathy for Italy because there was no censorship there, there had been a considerable growth of freedom, and now the north was going to have democratic elections. He did not see why the "Big Three" should not discuss peace with them.

With regard to Rumania, and particularly to Bulgaria, he added, the British knew nothing. Their mission in Bucharest, he asserted, had been penned up with a closeness approaching internment.

Stalin broke in to ask if we were really possible for him to cite such facts that had not been verified.

Churchill said that they knew this by their representatives there. Stalin would be very much astonished, he stated, to read a long catalogue of difficulties encountered by their mission there. An iron fence had come down around them, he said.

Stalin interrupted to exclaim: "All fairy tales," Churchill replied that he would not say anything of the kind. He expressed complete confidence in his representatives in Bucharest.

Churchill said that the suggestion of international control of the inland waterways had been made to meet the Russian position that Russia should be able to move freely in and out of the Black Sea, and that his Government was prepared to join in a guarantee with other nations and was prepared to press it on Turkey.

Freedom of the sea could be attained in this way without trouble to Turkey, he said. He agreed that the question must be put off but he hoped that the "tremendous fact that they had heard at this meeting" would not be underestimated by their Russian friends.

I said I wished to make clear my understanding of an international guarantee of the freedom of the Straits: it meant that any nation had free ingress for any purpose whatever. I did not contemplate any restrictions of any kind, I added.

Churchill Leaves
On July 25 Stalin took the position that in the discussion of German supplies and production, coal and steel were much more important than food. He saw his opportunity here. I could see to bargain for access to the resources of the Ruhr basin. And now he argued that the yield of this German industrial area should be made available to all of Germany, as Churchill argued that East German food supplies should be.

Churchill replied that the British themselves were short of coal because they were exporting to Holland, France and Belgium. They were denying themselves to supply these countries, the coming winter would be the most nearly dire one of the war for the people of England.

Stalin replied that the Russian situation was still more than that of the British. They had lost more than 30 million men in this war and were short of coal and other things. He was afraid, he said, that if he started describing the situation in Russia, he would make Churchill burst into tears.

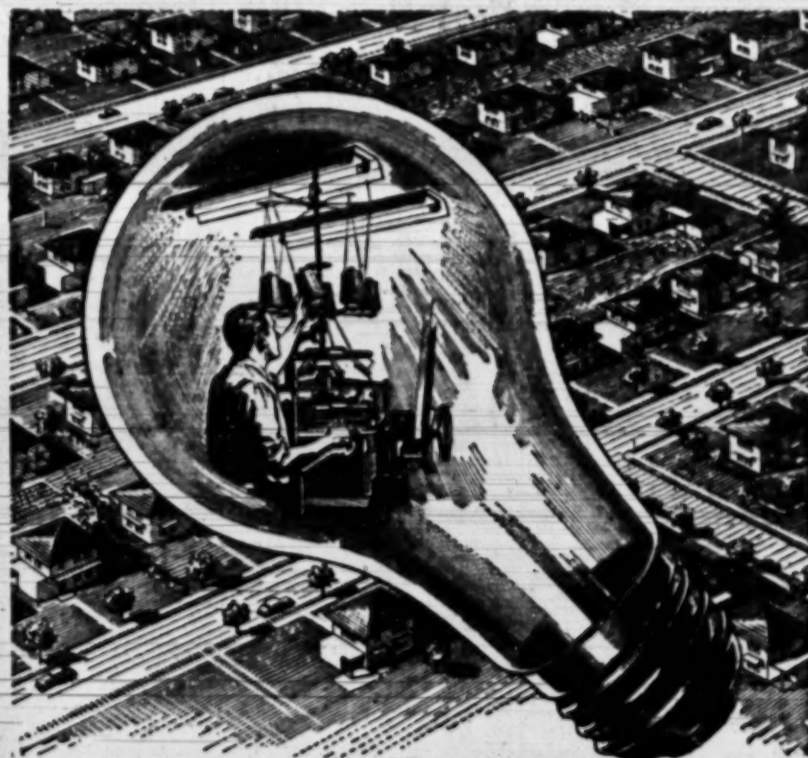
Churchill insisted that he was still eager to barter coal from the Ruhr in exchange for food for the German population, and Stalin agreed that this question must be discussed. Churchill replied that he did not expect a decision today, but he hoped for one soon.

Furthermore, he did not think we should consider that we had yet solved the major problems. So far as he was concerned, we had only exchanged views. A few more interchanges followed, and Churchill, referring to his departure the following day for the British elections, announced that he had finished.

"What a pity," Stalin gulped. "I hope to be back," Churchill replied.

Stalin remarked in reply that, judging from the expression on Mr. Attlee's face, he did not think Mr. Attlee was looking forward to taking over Churchill's authority.

This is the 19th installment of excerpts from Harry S. Truman's Memoirs of his first year in the Presidency. Copyright by Time Inc., and L.P.S. English rights in Israel reserved by The Jerusalem Post.



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PELTOURS

DEPARTURES: OCTOBER 23 TO OCTOBER 25

FROM LYDDA AIRPORT				
Date	Time	Company	Destination	
SUN.	0800	OTPAIR AIR	Nicosia, Athens, Rome, London	
OCT. 23	0800	L.A.I.	Athens, Rome, Geneva, Paris, New York	
	1115	T.W.A.	Athens, Rome, Geneva, Paris, New York	
	1300	EL AL	Athens, Paris, London, New York	
MON.	1500	EL AL	Rome, Vienna, Zurich, London	
OCT. 24	1700	EL AL	Nicosia	
TUES.	0800	S.A.S.	Istanbul, Vienna, Budapest, Copenhagen, Stockholm	
OCT. 25	0800	OTPAIR	Nicosia, Athens, Rome, London, Athens, Istanbul, Paris, Geneva, Khartoum	
	0700	SWISSAIR	Athens, Geneva, Zurich	
	0800	SABENA	Athens, Brussels, New York	
	1000	AIR FRANCE	Rome, Paris, New York	
	1100	K.L.M.	Amsterdam, New York	
	1200	EL AL	Istanbul	
WED.	1000	T.W.A.	Athens, Rome, Zurich, Paris, New York	
OCT. 26	1700	EL AL	Nicosia	
THUR.	0800	OTPAIR	Nicosia, Athens, Milan, London	
OCT. 27	0800	L.A.I.	Athens, Rome, New York	
	1000	T.A.E.	Nicosia, Athens	
	1100	K.L.M.	Rome, Amsterdam, New York	
	1200	EL AL	Natrol, Johannesburg	
FRI.	0800	EL AL	Istanbul	
OCT. 28	1000	T.W.A.	Athens, Rome, Milan, Paris, New York	

FROM HAIFA AIRPORT

FRI. 0800 OTPAIR AIR Nicosia, Athens, Istanbul

FROM HAIFA PORT

OCT. 26 S.A. PACH Larnaca, Paphos, Rhodes, Heraklion
OCT. 26 S.A. CATHARI Larnaca, Rhodes, Paphos, Heraklion
OCT. 26 S.A. MORGAN Larnaca, Rhodes, Paphos, Heraklion

PELTOURS

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JERUSALEM AND HAIFA ART NOTES

At Artists House Ciron and Padua

THE Jerusalem Artists House, "Sleeping Beauty's Castle" for many months, has really come to life for the beginning of the season, with three more exhibitions which opened last Saturday. After the heavy momentum of one-man shows with a hundred-odd numbers, such small, well-selected exhibitions are an enjoyable change.

Ladies first: Mrs. Rose Feige exhibits embroidered pictures and her little works are really lovely. There is nothing arty-antiquary about them. These little landscapes, those pictures of animals and people are fully-fledged works of art, conceived in an original and interesting manner. Her technique is extremely suitable for emphasis of the strong horizontal element in her landscapes, and her embroidery is a great gift for atmosphere. To put a khamsin into embroidery as she succeeded doing in No. 8, is almost an art in itself. Her latest work, "The Khamsin," is a testament to that of Pissarro, who expressed moonlight on one of his medallions. The tiny embroideries of fish, flowers and sheep are full of expression and extremely well observed.

Water Colours

JOSEPH COSANOGHI, always a welcome exhibitor in Jerusalem, exhibits a series of beautiful water colours this time. Cosanoghi is a master of the "Romantic Landscape." To him, a landscape is a grim, medieval fortress and an Italian Padua, a turret and a mountain city like Mont St. Michel. In a way, he does not paint landscapes, but rather reflections in dreams. Thus, his landscapes are abstract, painting, charming as they are, impress one as if one were looking at a series of abstract paintings. His latest series is, to my taste, lovelier and more weighty than anything I have seen in his Inland performances. To compare Cosanoghi's wholly atmospheric impressions of Acre with Aschheim's line renderings of the same themes is extremely interesting. The 35 water colours on show form a balanced and harmonious whole; this is a chance show of just the right size.

Drawings

ASCHHEIM's valuable contribution is a number of more drawings. About half are Venetian sketches; the others are pen-and-ink drawings of Acre. The style of the latter series gives an instructive idea of Aschheim's creative process. The Venetian sketches, done in black ink, express the essentials of a view in a few sure lines. One can almost feel the artist striving to compress the maximum of work into a few precious days of foreign travel. The Acre drawings, on the other hand, have come out of timeless dedication. The artist is assured that his theme cannot escape, that even if he does not fully succeed today, he can come back tomorrow. The result in both cases is most successful. The drawings of both series belong to the very best in Aschheim's distinguished work.

A cabinet displays jewellery by Krenberg of Tivon. They are extremely well executed and functional in their clear form. Their simplicity does full justice to the inherent beauty of silver and gem.

Radio Review

The Brandy of the Damned

THE importance of music in the scheme of broadcasting cannot be exaggerated. A survey is currently being taken of listening habits in Israel and I venture to predict that the number of listeners to music far outstrips that to spoken broadcasts, with the exception of the news. The reasons are not hard to find. Music is an international tongue, although there exists an iron curtain between East and West. It can be heard with all shades of concentration, ranging from a background sound to the concomitant personal of a score. It caters for all moods, as indicated by the variant definitions of "The Food of Love" and "The Brandy of the Damned." In Israel, the number of listeners who seek music is especially high because of the many citizens who are still not at home in Hebrew. There can be few listeners who do not, more or less frequently, turn the dial from station to station in search of music. That is precisely the French author, Gabriel Chevalier, has written that radio acts as a substitute for lack of conversation, but even this does not apply to music which plays frequently indiscriminately—as an accompaniment to all forms of talk, from the most intimate to the most impersonal.

We have become used to the situation whereby the bulk of our musical requirements is met by recordings. Programme after programme consists of alternative combinations of gramophone records. In general, these meet the demand for musical broadcasts and enable the listener to come into contact

ON THE AIR

FIRST PROGRAMME
8.00 a.m. — 8.15 a.m. — News: Hebrew 1.00, 4.00, 6.15, 8.30 and 11.00 p.m. Arabic Programme (in Hebrew): 8.15, 8.30 and 8.45 p.m.

TODAY
6.00 a.m. Morning Programme (Hebrew only): 6.30 Service, 6.35 Election, 6.40 Music, 6.45 News, 6.50 Midday (R), 6.55 Close Down, 7.00 News: 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 7.55, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 8.55, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 9.55, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 10.55, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 11.55, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 12.55, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 1.55, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 2.55, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 3.55, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 4.55, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 5.55, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 6.55, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 7.55, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 8.55, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 9.55, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 10.55, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 11.55, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 12.55, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 1.55, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 2.55, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 3.55, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 4.55, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 5.55, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 6.55, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 7.55, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 8.55, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 9.55, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 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RESTORATION in GERMANY

WESTERN GERMANY FROM DEFEAT TO REARMAMENT. By Alfred Grosser. — Atlanta & Crown. London. 264 pp. 18 sh.

It is the first really satisfactory study of post-war Germany. The author is a French historian. The explanation of the German situation is that M. Grosser is German-born and thus states the facts with a certain objectivity. At any rate, he has written a first-rate book, scholarly, lucid, and candid, which should be read by all who are interested in the situation of the German people. A glance at the bibliography appended to each of his chapters is enough to show that his work is not only scholarly but also a masterpiece of scholarship. Yet, readable as well as scholarly, an effect produced in part by the lucid style of the author. What a blessing it would be if writers without historical training or knowledge of the German situation could write with the lucidity of this book. From now on, perhaps they will find such a ready audience.

An analysis of what has happened in Germany since 1945 must necessarily be based on a brief account of the main events of the period, but to have any value, the factual summary must be placed in perspective, given historical depth, and interpreted in the light of observable general trends. To have done this without becoming dull is in itself a major achievement. The amount of information condensed into this volume is considerable. The author is not, however, content with retreating to the history of the Federal Republic. He goes back to the Weimar Republic and the German situation in the years immediately preceding the war. His political and social structure concerns him more than the bare factual outline. This is as it should be. Dr. Grosser's Germany has come to stay, rearmament or otherwise. Whether or not it remains organized into NATO, Western Europe cannot effectively organize without it. This subject is of special interest to France and Dr. Grosser not surprisingly devotes a chapter to an analysis of French opinion on Germany; but it concerns us all. If the Federal Republic ceased to be a pillar of post-war stability, the peace of Europe would once more be in the melting-pot.

Uneasy Tension
What sort of Germany is it then that has emerged from ten years of Allied occupation? Dr. Grosser is far too sophisticated to take the "re-education" campaign seriously, and his comments on the policies and personnel of the three Western occupying powers are among the most devastating yet published on this subject. He is also duly sceptical of the extent to which the Germans themselves have spontaneously achieved a genuine reformation since 1945: a scepticism shared by a good many Germans on the moderate Left. On the other hand, his assessment accords with the views of the Social Democrats and the left-wing Catholics (who are substantially less numerous and influential in Germany than in France): Federal Germany has witnessed a remarkably successful "restoration" of those pre-Nazi conservative attitudes and values which were dominant both before 1914 and in the later years of the Weimar Republic. The Bonn regime is far sturdier than the Weimar coalition; but it is also more conservative. Democracy has made some gains, but the uneasy tension between democratic and authoritarian tendencies in German public life persists. Above all, rearmament might well tip the balance once more in favour of authoritarianism.

Encouraging Signs
The picture is not all black. Apart from the near-complete discrediting of Nazism, there are encouraging signs among a minority of the younger generation. The Freiburg students who in 1952 demonstrated against an ex-Nazi film producer (and were brutally clubbed by the police) introduced something novel and

refreshing into the German scene. (As against their example, there is the ominous revival of the reactionary duelling fraternities.) The trade unions on balance are probably more powerful than they were under Weimar. A majority coalition of Social Democrats and the left wing of the CDU promises a parliamentary possibility once Dr. Adenauer has left the scene. The general impression, nonetheless, is one of stolid conservatism, parochial nationalism, and surreptitious whitewashing of the recent past. (It is now distinctly unfashionable to have been in the anti-Nazi resistance.) The ruling conservative coalition, which includes virtually everyone save the Social Democrats, a minority of the Protestant clergy, and a handful of intellectuals, has made no more than a half-hearted adjustment to democratic values. The post-war upsurge has not been what was expected; it has merely got stuck.

Period of Suspense
These conclusions, which are confirmed by references to the Federal Republic, are borne out by the remarkably low level of popular German literature, journalism, and films. There has

been nothing to compare with the post-liberation efflorescence of the arts in France and Italy. Not single significant book or film has come out of the Federal Republic. Ten years after the catastrophe, the German public remains sunk in the trivialities of pulp literature. A minority appreciates the better sort of books, plays and films that come from France, Britain and America; but no such works are produced locally (nor, for that matter, has anything of interest emerged in the East German Republic). The author does not undertake to predict how long this state of affairs is going to last. His main conclusion is that no change for the better can be expected as long as U.S. policy imposes a kind of immobility upon West Germany under the guise of "crusading anti-Communism." In this respect at any rate, Dr. Adenauer has recently surprised both his critics and his admirers. Although his "mission to Moscow" was scarcely a political success, it may have broken the stalemate. Rearmament is no longer a major issue in Germany, and the Federal Republic is free to witness its first serious internal political realignment.

TALE OF SURVIVORS

THE THIRD PILLAR. By Soma Morgenstern. Farrar, Straus, and Cudahy, New York. 8c.

Poetic, mystical, and yet sharp and incisive, this is a tale of the Jewish survivors of the Holocaust. The author is a Jew, and his tale is a Jewish tale. It is a tale of the Jewish survivors of the Holocaust, and it is a tale of the Jewish survivors of the Holocaust.

Soma Morgenstern has fused the purity of the Hasidic folk-tale with the fire of the satirist, and he has woven a tale of miracles that nevertheless is rooted in the blood-drenched earth of Jewish history. The tale is set on the day of liberation, when the Germans evacuate the town, but send an S.S. detachment to recapture it just as the few surviving Jews are coming out of their hiding place in a crypt below the ancient synagogue. As the Red Army approaches, the S.S. men in turn are held captive, and they are tried before an Av-Bet-Din, brought into being by an archangelic messenger.

Before this mysterious and holy court, the entire life and the tragic death of the Jewish community is related. It is told through the eyes of two young boys of the town, who are the sons of a Torah-scribe, pure soul, gifted scholar, who were 13 when the massacre in the synagogue took place. And in the lyric mode of the Hasidic legends that tell of souls mated in heaven, we are told of twin daughters of the town baker, a boy, and of the blossoming love of the children that was cut off in the massacre.

The tale is also a mysterious book assigned to the Nazi unit that occupied the town, a box that became too heavy to lift, and impossible to open. Yet when the time came, it was easily opened before the Av-Bet-Din, and there were also priests of the town, who stood as witnesses in this holy court, and the book that had been marked to contain "genuine soap" from the "figures" of the Jewish dead, the box that was at the side of a Torah scroll, was found miraculously to contain the figure of one of the twin boys. The other had survived, in the crypt, and was in the synagogue to witness judgment.

The devil's advocate, too, appears in this complex tale, and in the voice of the bitter satirist, the Screamer, and Fat-Belly, and Club-Foot, as they discuss the destruction of the Jews, particularly of the children, so that this people may

most surely be cut off from its future. The children above all! Then we will put an end to their suffering. The Nazis, the Mahlers, the Ehrlichs, the Bergsons and the Einsteins.

The verdict in the synagogal trials with prophetic fire: The defilers of creation, the defilers of the sources, their names be blotted out of the Book of Life and out of the Book of Death. Their souls be burned by the fire of the Holy Spirit.

The book closes with a last miracle in reality, in the finding of the strange tenth member of the Knesset, the Knesset member who had been taken place in this country's legislature since the founding of the State. The book is a work of reverence and beauty in which a writer of intellect has infused his literary mastery with the material distilled in our folk-spirit from archaic times to the present.

MEYER LEVIN

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Creating A New Capital

BEERSHEBA is like an eccentric wheel—every time you visit it, the centre of gravity has veered and you are never sure where it will be next. Not that this happens at random. Few towns in Israel are as well planned as Beersheba, but one part of the town develops quicker than the other, like the leaves of a cabbage. There is construction going on all the time—a new capital is shaping. No wonder that it is hard to find such enthusiastic craftsmen and professionals as in Beersheba. After all, it is great fun to build a capital, especially at a desert outpost. Here you can mould and shape your 'masterpiece' the way you like it without cumbersome restrictions imposed by tradition or existing buildings.

TO the visitor the old town may still seem the centre, but to the Beershebans it is now on the outskirts. The three new town units are in various stages of completion. Each section has its own U-shaped shopping centre and its own schools and kindergartens. That empty space, the new town centre, is slowly filling up. Prominent in this square is the magnificent modernistic theatre, second in size only to the Habimah, Israel's largest theatre building. There is an industrial centre in the southeastern corner and a smallholders' suburb in the southwestern corner of the projected capital. Four kilometres north of the town, off the main highway, a cemetery has been planned. Besides the 400-dunam large green belt around Beersheba, generously distributed open spaces for shrubs and trees give this desert capital a garden-city look.

BEERSHEBA will also be the industrial centre of the Negev and serve as a base for the various mining operations and other enterprises which will exploit the natural resources now being developed in Israel's southern desert lands. In the meantime Beersheba is not neglecting its own industrial potentialities and the well-planned industrial sector contains, besides a number of primary industrial enterprises, a factory-premises scheme for small investors built by the Municipality. The giant 'Kharsa' factory is not only the town's largest manufacturing unit, but also the largest ceramic factory in the Middle East. It is one of the few primary industries in Israel that use almost wholly local raw materials, the high-grade Negev clays. The 'Makhteshim' Chemical Works produce sufficient sodium chlorate to cover Israel's demand (distributed by the local ICI company) and is a manufacturer of DDT, using the Negev clays. This factory represents a \$3m. investment and possesses a caustic soda plant.

ENCOURAGEMENT is given to public development corporations to transfer their offices to the Negev Capital, more companies are expected to follow the example of the 'Dead Sea Works' and the 'Negev Ceramic Materials Ltd.' which have already moved closer to the sources of raw materials which they exploit. The latter company intends to erect a clay washing plant in Beersheba to improve the clays from the Makhtesh Hagadol and Makhtesh Ramon and from other localities planned to be worked.

The projected opening of the Negev Railway early next year will emphasize the importance of Beersheba as the vital transport terminal of Israel's growing mining industry. Spacious warehouses have been planned at the Beersheba railway station to store gypsum, phosphates, kaolin clays and Dead Sea products besides the industrial crops like cotton, flax, groundnuts, etc.

With the opening of the copper works at Timna, now under construction, and the hopeful outlook for finding more oil, other products will be added to the Railway's payload. Other services set up to meet the demand of an industrial centre are the giant Solel Boneh Workshops which have been made extra large to avoid a repetition of experience at the central repair shops in Haifa. These were found suddenly too small to cope with the rapid industrialization of Haifa Bay. This sort of planning is characteristic of all the factory buildings in Beersheba. Whether it is the trade school, the social centre, the 60-room Kupat Holim dispensary or the new town park, there is everywhere a sense of spaciousness.

SINCE the Liberation, over 5,000 new apartments have been built in Beersheba. There is Government Workers' housing and the Shikun Amami. There is the Histadrut Shikun and there is the Amidar Quarter. All have joined forces to make Beersheba a capital. Seven years ago today, when the independence of Beersheba was assured by the Israel Army, 300 soldiers decided to bring down their families after demobilization. They were the first to settle in Beersheba, the one-time all-Arab town in which, after the 1929 riots, few Jews had dared to live. Now 10,000 people, including 3,000 children live in Beersheba, and 98 per cent of the population are new immigrants.

The town has become a metropolis serving the many kibbutzim in the Northern Negev and acts as a godmother to Kfar Yeroham, Demona, Sde Boker, Oron, Ein Hatzefa, Sdom and many more mining centres existing and under construction. Beersheba has in its shadow five Chalkolithic settlements which have been unearthed in recent years.

PERHAPS nothing shows Beersheba's prominent role as a patronizing city more than its museum in the large stone building, which once housed a mosque, with its dominating minaret tower.

Diagrams and photographs here show the growth of Beersheba and the Negev. There is a glass-case full of Negev minerals—Glass sand and kaolin clays from the Makhtesh Hagadol and phosphates from further south lie side by side with samples of the kaolin clays of Makhtesh Ramon. Here gypsum is being quarried by members of Sde Boker to supply the cement factories; and the pretty dark brown marble slabs should find a ready market. A panel gives facts, figures and samples of the Dead Sea Potash works with their headquarters in Beersheba and specimens of copper and iron ore, ochre and marble are shown. Fossils and archaeological remains provide interest for the highbrow and a showcase full of Negev literature should satisfy all tastes.

VIVING with Beersheba's industrialization is the Yarkon pipeline. This greatest water supply project ever undertaken in Israel has affected almost every single person in the country before reaching its destination, the Negev. The Yarkon pipeline passes roads, crossed daily by thousands of people, the fields of many farmers, properties of cooperatives and private enterprise alike without destruction, and it carries away water supplies claimed by Israel's largest concentrations of population. Together with the dams around Beersheba, about 200,000 dunams will eventually be irrigated and support a farming population of 10,000 families. It will be a proud day for the capital of the Negev when it will obtain its agricultural independence.

In no other part of Israel have so many forces joined together to create a capital in the sands. From the highest point at the centre of the town you can see the gently rolling Negev foothills around the town merging with the capital, the sandy dunum monotony occasionally relieved by a cluster of trees and the verdant belt of trees, a fitting crown for the aspiring Queen of the Negev.

By DR. LINCOLN B. HALE

THERE are few places where a material achievement is so smoothly with spiritual values and historic perspectives as in the town of Beersheba and its hinterland in the Negev. The raw frontier outpost is rapidly turning into a dynamic and thriving city. The surrounding desert is dotted with an ever-increasing area of green patches. Fulfillment of biblical prophecies is becoming here part of everyday life. A victory of faith over the desolation of man-made desert.

The fascination of this region is not only in its biblical associations. To walk in the footsteps of the Patriarchs Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to look at King Solomon's column and enter the forbidden realm of Esau and to stand at the site of Lot's tragedy, are only part of the stimulus one derives from the area.

Another attraction, particularly for us Americans, is the similarity of the efforts in Beersheba and the Negev with our own frontier history. Our drive to the Westward is paralleled here by a drive to the South; and pioneers were the counterparts of the young Israel Republic; the determination and idealism of the forefathers are similar to the vigor and self-sacrificing spirit of the Beersheba and Negev citizens.

WE at the United States Operation Mission are proud and happy to be able to play a part in the inspiring efforts to revive Beersheba and its hinterland. American technicians from various parts of the United States work here in the field of agriculture and water resources. Israel experts, U.S. taxpayers' money, pooled with that of the Israeli citizens, is used here for development. In the form of technical assistance funds and dollar grants-in-aid together with counterpart funds in Israel currency.

Let us list some of USOM's activities in helping the development of Beersheba and the Negev area. In the field of agriculture and water resources, in the search for an exploitation of natural resources, in the extension of communications, in the promotion of new industries, in housing, health assistance and educational activities.

PERHAPS the most important happening in this area in thousands of years was the opening of the Yarkon-Negev water pipeline. A vast project, increasing the area of irrigable land in Israel by 25 per cent, USOM's economic aid to this project amounted to \$1.5m., out of a total cost of \$14.5m., plus an additional \$4.5m. of Grant-in-Aid funds spent in buying land and planning the project.

In addition, USOM's technicians were associated in the planning and construction of the pipeline in various stages of its implementation. New settlements in the Negev, in areas where for countless centuries cultivation had been confined to the sowing of barley following the first winter rains, have highlighted a number of agricultural projects.

USOM's specialists, working together with Israeli agronomists, is co-managing the Rim Test-land and Training Farm, the first of its kind in the Negev, where experimental planting of crops on a commercial scale is being undertaken. The farm is also serving as an important center of training for farm managers. This has taken the form of a series of practical and theoretical courses for selected farmers from the villages in the area, many of whom have considerable farming experience and thus are able to benefit greatly from these management training courses. Another expert is making a study

of water-utilization of different crops in the characteristic soils and under the climatic conditions of the Negev.

SOUTH of Beersheba, at Makhtesh Ramon, our management experts, together with engineers of the Israel Soil Conservation Service, have completed the first water-spreading project undertaken in Israel. Despite the low rainfall last winter, sufficient run-off water was collected to irrigate a part of the prepared area which produces the first irrigated crops in its history. This project enabled the core of the settlement to survive its first winter. The water-spreading project was allocated to this project. This has demonstrated that water-spreading can be applied in almost any area where natural conditions permit the collection and utilization of run-off waters opening up for cultivation of the thousands of dunams of formerly desert lands. Indeed, the Negev will bloom again.

The agricultural development and settlement of Beersheba's hinterland is only one aspect of the total programme for the area. Another, and not less important aspect is concerned with the search for and development of the Negev's natural resources.

The Mineral Resources Division at USOM today numbers five geologists and one geophysicist, working side-by-side with Israeli experts. A USOM technician, jointly with Israeli experts, devotes considerable time to the study of the phosphate rock which contains the largest known deposits of potash in the world. The sum of \$1.7m. out of a total investment of \$11.7m. has been allocated to this project. A Potash Plant, has come from Counterpart Funds. Another \$1.1m. has been expended elsewhere in the Negev for minerals exploration and development.

At the Negev Phosphate Mines, the streamlining of the production processes, and finding suitable methods of upgrading the phosphate rock, has been the prime concern of USOM technical assistance. Investigations into the possibilities of mining deposits at Timna, the site of King Solomon's Mines—have been carried out by USOM geologists and the Longyear Mining Consulting Company of America, under contract negotiated through USOM. Our technicians have also been associated in the investigation of the phosphate deposits in the area, as well as surveying other natural resources including iron, clays and glass sand.

Among the major projects for the immediate future is a geological investigation to be undertaken by USOM and the Ministry of Agriculture. The investigation of the range of granite rock running north from Eilat to Timna. Such granite formations usually contain valuable mineral deposits, and we are hopeful that our investigations there will be fruitful.

In the long run the development of Beersheba and the Negev area will be dependent on adequate and efficient transport facilities. The Beersheba-Na'an railway line, the first major link in the communications network being built to meet this need. The cost of construction of the line is being financed by Counterpart Funds of which nearly \$1.5m. have already been released. The railway is also serving as an important center of training for the Israel Railway in technical aspects of this important work.

Beersheba was once the centre of caravan routes beaten out over centuries by the tramping of camels coming from all directions. The old caravan routes are now being replaced by smooth-surfaced, asphalt-paved roads especially built to carry the heaviest loads coming from the desert.

USOM agreements with the Israel Government cover eight different roads in this area, in-

cluding the important Beersheba-Negev-Kurnub road which will complete the Beersheba-Sdom development road, shortening considerably the distance from the Negev capital to both Sdom, on the shores of the Dead Sea, and to the Negev Phosphate Mines. Other roads in the plan will enable the opening up of areas which have hitherto remained completely undeveloped.

USOM's Highway Construction Engineer, in cooperation with Israeli experts, has been able to introduce a new method of asphalt-concrete pavement for roads designed to carry heavy loads. Counterpart Funds have provided over \$1.5m. towards this highway development programme.

ONE of the most striking aspects of Beersheba's revival is the steady industrialization that is taking place in the town. As was to be expected, the new factories operating there are largely based on raw materials derived from the Negev.

Typical of these is the Israel Ceramic Works, Kharsa Ltd., producing ceramic sanitary ware. We were able to assist this plant with a loan of \$1.25m. through the scheme of industrial loans from Counterpart Funds, operated in cooperation with the Israel Government. In addition, USOM's Ceramic specialist, in assisting the management and staff to overcome technical problems, has also helped in devising a method of ensuring a uniform quality of raw materials, resulting in improvement in the general standard of the plant's production.

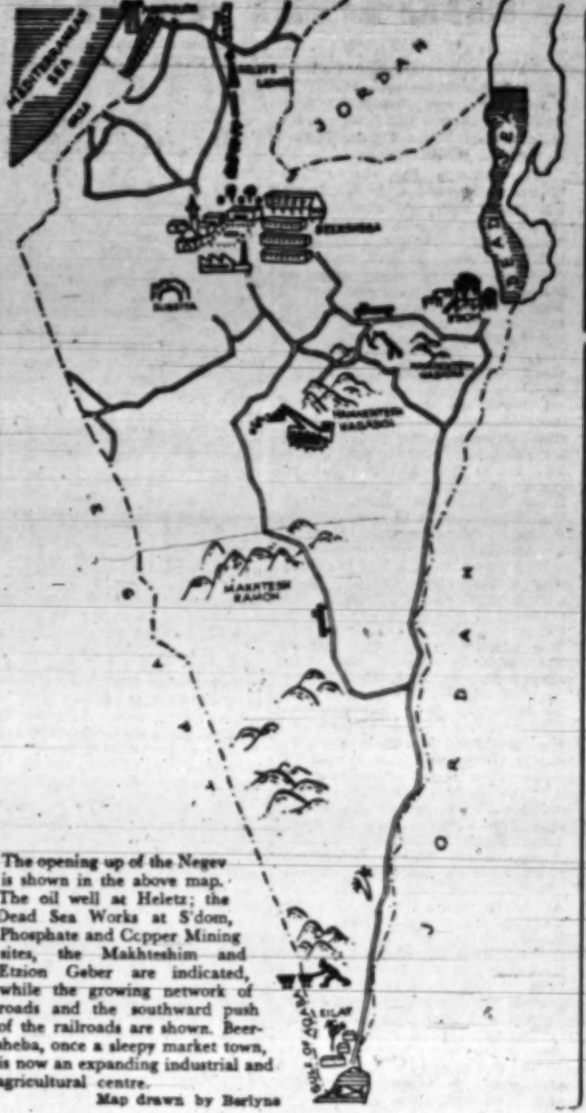
A substantial part of the new comers to Israel had no vocational or constructive skills. A National Education programme has, therefore, had a double significance—to teach these people trades in order to make them productive citizens, and to provide skilled workers for the country's rapidly expanding industry and agriculture. In Beersheba, and the Negev, this programme is basic to the development of the area, and Beersheba was therefore chosen as one of the first places for the establishment of a Vocational Training Centre, of which six are being set up in different parts of the country. U.S. Technical Aid funds amounting to \$450,000 were allo-

cated for the equipping of these Centres, and our Vocational Education specialist has been closely associated with these efforts. The Beersheba Centre already provides training for 120 students, mostly men who have completed their army service, and this number will shortly be increased to 200 when the additional accommodation now under construction is completed. The trades taught there are those which are specially needed in the overall development programme of the town and include lathe-working, precision tool work, carpentry, electric welding and automobile mechanics.

Economic and technical aid has also been given to the Weizmann Agricultural School near Beersheba, where the future farmers of the Negev are being trained. A special feature has been the provision by USOM of Israel's first school bus for rural schools to take children from the surrounding villages to and from this school. We hope that this will be the first step in a steadily increasing scope of agricultural secondary education, especially in immigrant villages where economic considerations have so far limited the possibility of widespread secondary education.

Housing for new residents has been considered a particularly urgent task in Beersheba alone, the new city has expanded so rapidly that it already is far larger than the old town. USOM's contribution in this field, besides technical assistance through housing expert, amounted to \$1,420,000 in Counterpart Funds.

THE face of Beersheba, and of much of the Negev, has completely changed during the past few years. It will continue to change as the many development projects in the town and the Negev area reach fulfillment. I have said before that we of USOM feel a sense of deep satisfaction in our role in this adventure. For us the blending of past, present and future engenders a sense of faith. We are dealing in material things—in housing, irrigation, sanitation and mineral research—but in historical perspective the issues seem to transcend the bare terms of the projects. The peaceful conquest of the desert is the road to a better future.



The opening up of the Negev is shown in the above map. The oil well at Helet; the Dead Sea Works at Sdom, Phosphate and Copper Mining sites, the Makhteshim chemical plant and the Solel Boneh workshops are indicated, while the growing network of roads and the southward push of the railroads are shown. Beersheba, once a sleepy market town, is now an expanding industrial and agricultural centre.

Map drawn by Bar-Ya

The Mayor's Report Looks Toward the Future

By DAVID TUYVAHU

THE day of colonial and Arab rule came to an end in Beersheba on October 22, 1948, but the armistice agreements, deprived the Negev of its status as a free zone, and this was to have considerable influence on the development of the southern half of our country and on the capital whose economic growth assumed a definite locked character.

When the administration of Beersheba passed into civilian hands in 1950 the writer of these lines submitted to the then Minister of Finance, the late Eliezer Kaplan, a set of recommendations for the development of Beersheba. The conditions that would allow it to become the administrative, medical and trading centre of the Negev, to help the foundations of basic industries exploiting the raw materials of the Negev, to provide the foodstuffs and building materials whose transport from the north is costly; and to encourage the influx into Beersheba of the population of the Negev would require.

The meeting that took up the recommendations entrusted to the young municipality, for lack of any suitable government agency, with the task of carrying out several aspects of an urban plan in this town, which was then a small town of 10,000 people, was the town's population would reach 30,000 within five years. The purpose of this article is to evaluate some of the positive and negative circumstances that have influenced what has been done during these five years.

It is hard to tell for sure how the present 11,000 residents of Beersheba would have stood the strain of absorbing another 20,000 people during these five years, of creating employment for them, of educating them and of generally understanding into them.

Unusual Obligations. With the assistance of various government agencies, the municipal administration assumed a whole range of unusual financial and administrative obligations. They laid upon the municipality a financial burden all its own, but made it possible to go ahead with several development projects without waiting for national funds. The municipality participated in bringing power to the town from the North by way of the Western Negev; it helped to secure the provision of water supply, paved roads, put up buildings required by the town's trade and industry, and supply cultural, educational and entertainment facilities.

A public absorption committee and a social welfare office were in touch with every family. Owning to the speeding up of the Ministry of Labour's housing programme in the district, everyone was taken out of the tent and shanty towns. Only 400 of Beersheba's 4,000 families remain in wooden barracks. Everyone else has his own home; it may be cramped, but it is owned by him and he is free to make something of it in line with his habits and his cultural level. There is a framework for family life; the housewife has a number of addresses; it is up to those who live in it to go on from there.

Of particular importance for the fulfilment of the Government's hope that the Negev will not have to rely on the skills of residents of other parts of the country, the hundreds of professional—physicians, engineers, teachers, regular army officers, etc.—who with their families are making their home in Beersheba and by very dint of their presence in the various quarters in which they are scattered, are helping more than anyone else to pull together the various communities.

Vocational training in various trades and skills has given more than satisfactory results in this



DAVID TUYVAHU

respect, and here, besides the work of the State agencies and the Ministry of the Interior, the immigrant himself, who did as much as anyone to emancipate himself, one must commend the Histadrut, which has given of its very best to help Beersheba in many an endeavour.

The setting up of district government offices in Beersheba to coordinate the administrative activities in the Negev has been a long and unsteady. The first steps in this direction were made in 1950, but there was a setback in 1952 and it is only now that Beersheba has become the capital of a district with its own Representative that a framework has been provided for the organized operation of the various departments on a local level. To this day, the local offices of the Ministry of Health and of the Department of Public Works, for instance, have not been delegated enough authority.

The Settlement Department of the Jewish Agency has done much to concentrate administrative and economic personnel in Beersheba by setting up its offices in the town from the start. Other institutions, such as the Potash Works and Tovaia, have also made their headquarters here recently, and since the personnel involved are making their homes in Beersheba, the town is deriving social advantages as well as economic benefits from this development.

Medical Institutions. Beersheba's growth as the capital of the Negev owes much to the medical institutions that operate here. Most restricted are the activities of the Ministry of Health and the Municipality in preventive medicine and in infant care (Type Haler). The Hadassah Medical Organization has been helping the town along by running a hospital from the start, and Kupat Holim recently set up a district clinic here. The self-sufficiency of the Negev is to a large measure dependent on the range of specialized medical services available on the spot.

Three factors are responsible for the growth of commerce in Beersheba. One is the purchasing power of the farmers all around, to whose requirements Beersheba's tradesmen and shopkeepers have adapted themselves. Another is the number of Beduin, whose wants are also taken into account by the traders, many of whom do most of their business on market day. Last comes the purchasing power of the public economic enterprises in the area as well as of the residents of the town itself, among whom the hundreds of shopkeepers are an important and respected element.

Particularly speedy has been the special development of the hotel trade, vital to the hundreds of travellers at this busy crossroads. The general lines along which the establishment of industry in Beersheba were originally envisaged have on the whole been adhered to qualitatively rather

than quantitatively. From this latter point of view, progress has been most unsatisfactory. Nor are the industries that have come to Beersheba sufficiently varied. The Makhteshim chemical plant that processes Negev minerals, the Kharsa ceramics plant, the Tovaia trucking organization of the Bedouin kibbutzim and the Solel Boneh workshops are pointers for the future rather than final accomplishments. The two building materials plants which cater to the lively construction activity in and around Beersheba—Solel Boneh's cement materials plant and the Haboma company's Lvsena brick factory—do not suffice, for instance, to stop building materials from being transported from the North at a tremendous cost and in ever-increasing quantities.

The transition from controls to free production has hurt some of Beersheba's food industry, but other factories are doing well and are looking forward to the influx of population into the area.

THE 'NEGEV PROJECT'

By M. CAHANOVITZ

AFTER the liberation of the Negev, the land settlement agencies renewed their activities in the Negev. The Jewish Agency and the J.N.F. set up 'The Negev Project' in Beersheba. This took on the job of rebuilding the veteran settlements, establishing new ones, and giving guidance in all branches of agriculture to all who needed it.

I remember an emergency meeting of the heads of the 'Negev Project' called in November, 1948, and it is only now that Beersheba has become the capital of a district with its own Representative that a framework has been provided for the organized operation of the various departments on a local level. To this day, the local offices of the Ministry of Health and of the Department of Public Works, for instance, have not been delegated enough authority.

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Anyone who is acquainted at first hand with reality and immersed in the day-to-day preoccupations of the life that is beginning to flow in the Negev cannot feel satisfied that the task has been accomplished. It is difficult to become reconciled to the fact that after all these years not a comprehensive and detailed plan has been worked out for the future. The individuals and the institutions who have evolved the lines along which the development of our various districts is being organized, must be asked to contribute of their time and knowledge in order to work out a plan by which we will at least double the population of the Negev and the working potential in its towns and villages, its trade and industry, its mines and extractive enterprises. We all want our activity in the next five years to be better coordinated, to involve fewer dislocations and less human suffering, and above all to give greater satisfaction to the settler, the planner, and the administrator.

Throughout the entire Negev there were no more than 400 Jews in 1948.

The present population of the Negev is 15,000—10,000 in immigrant villages (moshavim) and 5,000 in Bedouin settlements. 72 settlements, 36 are immigrant villages, 27 are kibbutzim (including the Hashomer Hatzair kibbutz 'Nir-Oz', which was established a fortnight ago near the Gaza strip), three agricultural outposts in the Arava, five contract settlements (farms and agricultural schools).

AGRICULTURAL conditions in the Negev are excellent. The soil is good and the climate is favourable. The rains, however, are not reliable, and there is a drought almost every year. Drought causes great losses in money and fodder to Negev farmers. It is obvious that water is the key to the development of the Negev, and the Mekorot Company has done a great deal to bring water in the area. The amount of available water has grown from 2,000-3,000 cubic metres a day to the present 200,000 c.m. and more a day. 80,000 dunams are under irrigation (i.e. 10-15 to each family unit), and we plan to reach 30-40 dunams per family, depending on the type of farm. Even the sewage water of Beersheba is exploited by the 'Hermesh' (Soyth) Society (which includes Hatzarim Revivim, Machabeh-Sadeh and Sde Boker), which uses it for growing alfalfa, corn and other crops. The Tahal Company has built a dam at Tel Yeroham, Shuvai, Mishmar Ha-Negev, etc. In the past two years, successful water-drillings (going down to 800-900 metres) have been made in the Beersheba area, which supply 200-300 cubic metres an hour.

The Negev has proved its enormous potential for agricultural development, and it contains by far the chief agricultural land reserves of the State. It can be developed by establishing a host of new settlements which would absorb thousands of new families. The Government must make every effort to develop the water resources of the Negev, and to bring water to the Negev—the greater part of the water reserves of the State should and must reach the area where the chief land reserves lie.

When we began our work we found the settlers (there were 10 kibbutzim and one moshav) in a very depressed and apathetic mood. Many of their finest comrades, the cream of the Negev pioneers, had been killed in the war, the settlers had been cut off from their wives and children, no agricultural work had been done during the fighting. With the encouragement and help of existing groups, and of groups who were soon added, we began by having Mekorot rebuild water pipelines for drinking purposes, and also started to work on supplying water for irrigation. It should be emphasized

RAIL LINK STEELS ECONOMY

By YACOV ANDON

BEERSHEBA and the Negev could have no finer birthday gift prepared for them than the railway which is now being completed and is expected to be ready for service by the end of January. Nothing will so accurately join the Negev to the rest of the country and stimulate its economic metabolism as much as low-cost rail transport. Without it, the natural resources of the Negev—phosphates, potash, sand, gypsum, salt, clay, metal ores—might just as well have been buried in some faraway country, for they cannot be mined, processed or marketed anywhere at a cost that bears any reasonable relation to international market prices.

Subject as it is to profit-and-loss accounting, private capital will not go to the Negev unless transport costs for raw materials and finished products are reasonable. Whatever industrial investments have so far been made came mainly out of public funds, and have been maintained by direct and indirect subsidies. They, too, cannot hope to become economically self-sufficient until transport costs come down drastically.

When the phosphates were first brought by road from Kurnub to Haifa—a distance of about 300 km.—the trucking company charged IL500 per ton, explaining that the trucks had to return to Kurnub empty. After unloading, they stowed up odd southbound cargo at cut rates, co-operating with truckers, until rail transport of phosphates from Migdal Ashkei to Haifa ended the dispute.

For the 150 km. distance from the Makhtesh to Migdal Ashkei, the trucking company now demands IL7 per ton, according to the principle that the more the trucks run, the more they are likely to cost. In that calculation, the trucks were not loaded; a rate of IL2.50 per ton was approved, IL1 per ton for the 100 km. distance, and IL1.50 per ton for the 50 km. distance. Even if a generous allowance is made for the poorer condition of the roads in and near the mining area, the trucking cost is a heavy burden on the economic life of the Negev.

The present combined road and rail route from Haifa to Beer-sheva will drop from IL1.50 to IL1.00 per ton when Beersheba becomes the point of trans-shipment. But it has been calculated that if a break-even at current freight rates the line will have to carry 600,000 tons a year between Beer-sheva and Haifa.

One hundred thousand tons of phosphates and 100,000 tons of potash are to be shipped north from Beersheba next year. Clay, salt, glass sand and some other minerals—made up of about 60,000 tons. There will also be industrial crops, grain and vegetables. The goods that will be worth carrying south by rail are foodstuffs, building materials, petroleum products and fertilizer.

Thus it is by no means certain whether in its first year of operation the new line will even cover its costs at ordinary commercial calculations. But these take account only of present or assured mining output. Figures. The export potential of the Negev chemicals at Haifa—which is still as long as a major element of road transport inflates costs be-

yond the internationally competitive level—begins to look very favourable once they are carried to the harbour quay by rail, and more extensive exploitation is likely to follow. The Government is determined to extend the line at least to Kurnub, another 64 km.

Link with Lachish
The other benefits of the railway line are too obvious to need elaboration. Such plans as the establishment of light industries at Lachish are unrealistic without cheap rail transport. What is more, swift and efficient transportation of men and goods in either direction will shorten the psychological distance between the developed North and the Negev, quicken the pace of settlement and gradually bring the country's centre of economic gravity nearer its geographic centre.

Work on the 74 km. Na'an-Beersheba line was first undertaken in 1953 by the Negev Development Authority (Migdal Ashkei), then interrupted the same year for lack of funds. When the coalition government was formed, it decided that the Railways should undertake the work, but the organizational reshuffle and the transfer of the contracts caused an extensive delay of nearly six months.

The entire project represents an investment of IL100 million. The Shikunim Corporation supplied the steel rails, Finland the wooden sleepers. Concrete sleepers would have been used if they had been ready, however, for use on the Beersheba railway station and the sidings there. Some 110 culverts and 17 bridges had to be built. The line will be completed in the latter

half of November. The bridges are fairly long and represent a major construction effort.

The midway station on the Na'an-Beersheba line, had just been completed when the Government decided to extend the line to Kurnub, another 64 km. The decision of the Government to extend the line to Kurnub, another 64 km. The decision of the Government to extend the line to Kurnub, another 64 km.

Stations as Needed
More intermediate stations are planned for the Na'an-Beersheba line, but they will be built only if and when the need arises. For the time being, only crossing and loading platforms are to be constructed.

The line will not be open for passenger traffic before next April. Travel time to Beersheba will be an hour-and-a-half from Tel Aviv and three from Haifa. The investment in the construction of a railway that will eventually run down to Eilat, and the economic integration of the Negev with the Northern half of the country, should convince foreign politicians—if they allow themselves to be convinced—that Israel's attachment to the Negev is not sentimental. The Negev is Israel, as much as the corn fields of the Emek and the stony hills of Galilee. The attachment to the Negev is not sentimental. The Negev is Israel, as much as the corn fields of the Emek and the stony hills of Galilee.

Seven years ago the sons of the desert who lived in the Negev were largely nomads. Today they have settled in the neighbourhood of Beersheba and enjoy a prosperity they had never known before. The most important feature of it is that not only a few rich Bedouins and notables benefit from it. Their living standards are rising, and clinging to most of their ancient customs is

Hias Hostel is New Landmark



HOME The Hias Hostel, home for the engineers and scientists working in the Negev, is the beginning of an intellectual centre in the new town.

Jerusalem Post Reporter
THE style, the style and the modern aspect of the United Hias Hostel, inaugurated in Beersheba two months ago, have already made it a landmark in the town. But more important by far than its appearance is the role which the hostel is already playing in the development of the Negev.

That Beersheba has finally got such a building is mainly the achievement of Mr. Menachem Kraisner, Director of the United Hias Appeal in Israel. Of Canadian origin, he early realized the importance of the Negev for this country. Flying to the U.S. on his business, he carried the day, and Mr. Kraisner was given the green light.

The existence of the hostel is already being felt by engineers and technicians who had so far been reluctant to accept jobs in the Negev. They are taking them. The hostel is forming the nucleus of an intellectual life which will devote itself to the development of the Negev and is ready to pass on its knowledge to all the workers who are going to the Negev. Mr. Kraisner undertook to sell the idea to the Hias people in America. It was not easy, because Hias has been out of the U.S. for a long time. Kraisner explained that if Hias would invest money in the pro-

ject the development of the Negev would be appreciably furthered, and that the more the Negev was developed the less outside financial help Israel would need to accept jobs in the Negev. Mr. Kraisner was given the green light.

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PICA in the Negev

IT is a far cry from Metula to the Negev, but the policy of systematic pioneering elaborated by the late Baron Edmond de Rothschild in Galilee over 50 years ago is now being extended by his institution, PICA, to the Negev. The decision to assist the development of this vital region was put into operation in 1954/55, when PICA made a first provision of IL27,000 for this work.

Kfar Yehoram is a lonely outpost in the Negev, some 30 km. south of Beersheba. Here, PICA has helped in setting up plantations, a hostel and a women's home weaving industry (organized by Mrs. Ruth Davan). This beginning aroused PICA's interest in the agricultural potential of the whole surrounding area. As a result, sums of money were allocated for agricultural work at Masabab, Be'er-Sheva and Be'er-Sheva. PICA contributed to the Government's pottery training establishment, an undertaking expected to benefit local industry.

South to Eilat, here, PICA seeks to help in strengthening the town's agricultural and industrial base. The Palestine Salt Co., in which PICA is the major shareholder, set up a pilot plant here during the course of this summer for the manufacture of salt by the evaporation of sea water. It was erected with the aid and encouragement of the Government and U.S.O.M. (Point Four).

The flourishing wild date palms near Eilat led PICA to purchase 1,000 seedlings of first

class varieties in California. These have arrived and have been placed for a period, prior to planting in Eilat, in a Government nursery in the Jordan Valley.

The Negev is a favourite haunt of trippers but, between Beersheba and Eilat they can find no accommodation. Consequently, PICA has contributed to a Road House at Makhtesh Ramon, which will be managed by the Boker.

Further south, at Sdom, the Palestine Salt Co., at the end of 1954, started quarrying salt from the historic salt rocks. The Dead Sea attracts visitors and young people from all over the country, and here PICA made a grant towards the furnishing of the "Noam" Youth Hostel at Sdom.

much has been done so far for the Negev; much more remains to be done. But, needed to achieve it all are time, money and peace.

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COPPER MINES AT TIMNA

By HARRY ARVAY

A TENDER belonging to Israel Mining Industries took me north from Eilat to the Timna copper mines along the main highway running through the wide steppe called Wadi Araba. A strong wind cooled the mid-day sun's heat. The landscape was desolate with bare mountains reaching for the azure sky on either side of the broad valley.

Twenty-five kilometres north of Eilat, we stopped at a water drilling rig. I had by chance arrived at a moment of great significance to the Arabs: that very day, sweet water had been struck for the first time in this arid, and all around dry yellow sand and rock were steaming with it. The Tahal men on the spot told us that they had drilled 70 metres down the wadi gravel and that the well would yield about 50 cubic metres per hour.

After a look round the square camp of neat stone houses and wooden huts I was taken by jeep to the Hill of Slaves, three kilometres from the camp, by Shilo Harari, the Camp Manager. The Hill is a plateau with sheer cliffs falling to the plain and only two paths permitting ascent up the precipice of massive sandstone. The entire plateau is covered with enormous slag-heaps—black with occasional bright green spots indicating the presence of still unmined copper ore.

Solomon's Smelters
This large-scale copper smelting is assumed dates back to King Solomon's reign. With the scorching sun burning on our backs we inspected remnants of what were probably smelting kilns.

It is easy to reconstruct the ancient scene—thousands of sweating slaves gathering the rocks, green with copper ore, into their baskets, bringing them to be weighed under the supervision of a sadistic overseer, and each receiving a ration of water and flour in accordance with what he earned. Up on the hill, great charcoal fires burn, their heat scorching the faces of other slaves. A high wall has been built nearby, and in the enclosure the extracted metal is being poured into moulds. Mercenaries, in another camp, store-rooms have been erected for supplies brought south by endless caravans.

Dead Wilderness
Mr. Harari spent hours thrilling me with his reconstruction of the dead wilderness, basing his conclusions on years of research and study—on the spot. He is a 32-year-old colour who spent five years in the British Army, and another four in the Israel regular service before he came to Timna in 1952. No actual mines, in the full sense of the word, have been found. But a great deal of ore was certainly extracted here a long time ago, probably from rocks washed loose by floods and broken up by erosion.

Today's mining is fortunately a more humane and economic affair. The low-lying areas surrounding Timna are covered by alluvial drift, hills are mainly sandstone and the copper ore is found in chert nodules, which is a copper silicate and in turquoise—a copper phosphate. These beautiful green and blue-green minerals are strewn over the area in abundance. The turquoise only has to be polished for use as jewellery.

The main work going on at the moment is the excavation and levelling of an area of about 80 dunams where a copper extraction plant is to be built within the next two years. My guide here was Max Noah, the young surveyor of the company. Of old Dutch stock, Noah came to Palestine in 1947. There followed the usual pattern of British detention camp and army service. Then he and his wife settled down in Ashkelon where she and the three children live. He has fallen in love with the Arabs.

I watched the giant "crappers" (cutters) at work, each moving an average of 1,000 tons of alluvial soil daily. When Mr. Navias, the Chief Mining Engineer, describes the future plant, you realize that the mere extracting of the ore still leaves you a long way from having usable metal. The ore has to be crushed and ground, then treated with acid which leaches the copper out. Next, the copper-bearing solution is passed over scrap iron and the metal that is precipitated, Concentrated Copper, is sent overseas for electrolytic refining.

Involved and costly as this process sounds and is, our copper mines at Timna will nevertheless be an important and economic dollar earner in a world constantly in urgent need of more and more of this metal, upon which the entire electrical industry is based.

The fact that we are building a copper extraction plant right next to the mines is of greatest significance. It will save a great deal of time, effort and expense usually expended in transporting the heavy ore, only a few per cent of which is pure metal. The mine and plant together will employ about 200 men, all permanent Arabs and Eilat settlers who will bring their families to the houses that are being erected.

Prospecting, analysis and valuation of the ore body has been completed. The numerous test holes have proved the presence of many millions of tons of copper ore. Three years have already been spent on planning the mine and extraction plant. In about a year's time the mine will commence to build up reserves of ore for the great day when the plant is to begin operation.

Comfortable Quarters

I saw the test holes; the mounds of ore; mountains being moved to make place for the plant; experts getting set for the big job; and men in the camp preparing the ground for building more to come when the time is ripe. I saw Eilat being built up, an increasing flow of life down the Wadi Araba, preparing for the day when King Solomon's mines are busy again, though no longer staffed with slaves.

The successors to the slaves are comfortable enough. In the centre of the camp is a spacious dining hall connected by a short avenue of shady eucalyptus trees with the canteen and recreation room. Trees have been planted all around and are doing well, thanks to ample irrigation. We spent the hour before lunch in

the canteen, drinking local beer and lemonade in quantities that would seem unbelievable to those unacquainted with the desert.

Plentiful Drinks

Veterans tell me that even or eight litres of pure liquid daily is not too much to supply the body's vital cooling system. They maintain that one should drink steadily, in small regular doses, before one is thirsty. Thirst here is a danger signal not worth waiting for.

One by one, the men came to town, waiting for the dinner. I had expected to find an Israeli "wild West" here, but through only strong men choose a tough job in a tough part of the world, these men are serious workers, neither vulgar in speech, gesture, nor fight. They write letters, read books through the side of newspapers brought down by plane four times a week. The radio, derive endless pleasure from circling the globe as the windows of the table tennis and chess (cards are prohibited) and tell an endless succession of yarns. Beyond the barbed wire enclosures, the heavy wilderness, but within reigns 35th century civilization. Here, by hour, the camp's wireless operator is 15-year-old Mosheim Madi, an army aviator now studying meteorology who came to Israel from France in 1948.

Besides men and machines, the camp houses a score or so of dogs—loyal friends and guards, receiving the best of food and care—a veritable paradise for canines.

Names for Hills

Even the hills near the mine are fondly referred to by nicknames.

The food at Timna is plentiful and good. The 51-year-old Polish-born cook, Jona Egozy, learned his art as an officers' mess cook in the British Army. He used to be a contractor for building repairs in Tel Aviv. But business was bad and he ran into debt. He decided to do the white cook's uniform again and came down to Timna. "I do very well here," he told me. "Next month my wife is coming down to work with me. We want to pay out debts and get a flat for my daughter." Egozy came to this country in 1921, learned draughtsmanship, served in the Palestine Police before joining the British Army, fought in the War of Independence and later worked with the Lapidot Oil Drilling Co. "That's where I got my first taste of mining camp life. I like it."

POSTMEN IN RED VANS AND RADIO-TELEPHONES

By MALKA RABINOWITZ

LIFE on the frontier has moved with the times. The pony express that brought mail to America's western stretches 200 years ago has been replaced in Israel's outlying areas into modern red vans, equipped with radio-telephones. Conditions in the hot, sandy settlements of the South may be primitive in many respects but the postal service is as good as you'll get in Tel Aviv.

Does Na (Mobile Post Service) in the South radiates from Beersheba in three directions. Six mornings a week, promptly at 9 a.m., two-man teams of drivers and postmen check their ammunition and climb aboard the three red vans designated Negev Mail One, Two and Three. At 3:30 in the afternoon, the vans will be back in Beersheba after having called at a total of 70 settlements.

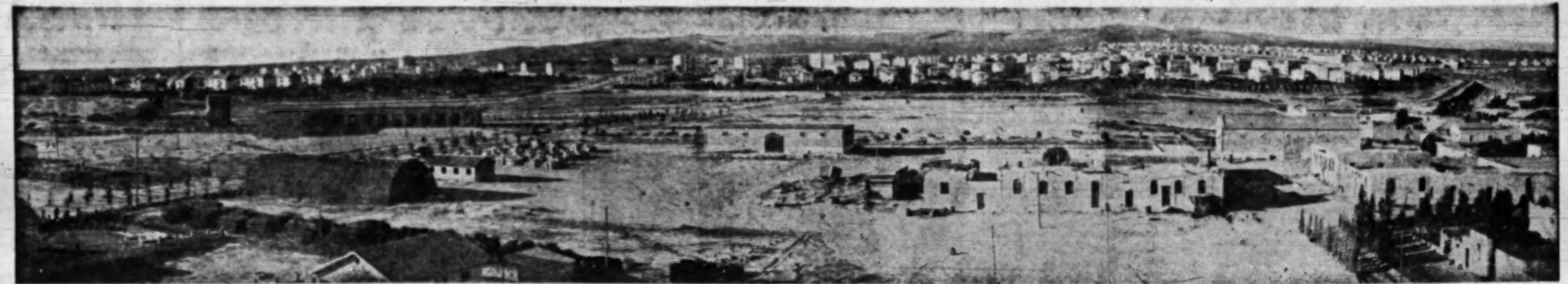
Last week, we accompanied Negev Mail Two, travelling a route that passes within a few shooting distance of Egyptian encampments on the Gaza Strip. "We've had some trouble once or twice," the driver told me, "but we get past them. The only enemy that appeared that day was a blazing tyrannical sun that cast a haze over the barren hills, the occasional cactus bushes and the lone trees scattered over the landscape."

At one point along the route, a kibbutz member turned to us. "You writing about Doar Na?" Then say it's a good service and we're mobatim (satisfied) with it." Indeed, this post office on wheels is extremely efficient, efficient in simple. When the driver pulls up near the hut-office of a settlement, the clerk climbs into the rear of the truck and opens a window on one side. From a pigeon-hole, he removes the letters, packages, telegrams and newspapers earmarked for the settlement and hands them to the postman. The latter, in turn, hands over outgoing mail, buys whatever stamps are needed, transmits any business there is with the postal bank and asks how things are in Beersheba. The clerk will pass the time of day with some passing settlers, look at the back door, note the time of departure on a special form and so on to 14 settlements.

This simple operation is preceded by 14 hours of preparation. At nine o'clock every evening, mail trucks begin converging on the Tel Aviv Post Office from Beersheba, Haifa and Jerusalem. Here, the mail trucks are changed, and at 8:45 a.m., the Beersheba truck is on its way home stopping at Gadera and Migdal Ashkei to drop off the mail in these areas. By 9 o'clock,

the mail has been sorted, pigeon-holed in the Negev mail vans and another Doar Na day begins. If the clerk on Negev Mail Two were given a word association test, he would undoubtedly answer "telegram" to every mention of "Beersheba." For when the code name "Rabbit Two" comes in triple succession over the van's radio telephone set, it means that a telegram is on the way for some settlement along the route. The telegram will arrive at its destination a few minutes after it is ripped off the Negev Beersheba teleprinter and wired to the Doar Na truck.

This service operates two ways, with Doar Na transmitting to headquarters any telegrams addressed up along the way. Direct radio-telephone service is maintained with nine settlements which do not have telephones. Beersheba connects with these points—for 15-minute periods every morning and afternoon, and Negev Mail visits them once a day. Settlement telephones are on four or five party lines. A Post-Office official commented: "Sometimes somebody gets it into his head to pick up



Pioneers—Beersheba is a Solei Boneh town—twenty days after the Liberation, seven years ago, the firm set up an office and began to create employment through its own contracting work and through the activities of its subsidiaries.

This panorama view of the new Beersheba shows a large section of the immigrant housing units that now dot the skyline. In the left foreground is a schoolhouse, also built by the firm, the largest of the five schools in the town. Apart from the fact

that Solei Boneh building activities have helped change the face of the town from a checkerboard square to a budding metropolis, the firm's widest and most important activities are the industrial and development projects of the entire area.

Solei Boneh in Beersheba

Seven-Year Record of Employment and Development

By A Special Correspondent

THE continuous pioneering activities of Solei Boneh, since its inception, in the contracting and construction fields have helped transform the Negev into a thriving area of activity and to conquer the wastelands of the southern half of the country. From the beginning, the course of Solei Boneh was guided by national and public interests, and its activities served as an instrument to create employment for our workers and masses of immigrants who swelled their ranks. With the rise of the State, to which Solei Boneh contributed considerably, the company was given additional tasks connected with the economic welfare of the State and the absorption of immigrants, providing housing and employment throughout the country in accordance with the basic plan of the Government to disperse the population in new settlements.

In fulfilling these tasks, Solei Boneh followed the Armed Forces in their conquest of the various parts of the country, and by applying all its resources, succeeded in laying the foundations for new settlements, providing popular housing, making available essential services and providing employment for new immigrants in all parts of the country. In doing so, Solei Boneh had to make available all the resources of its entire organization throughout the country, including equipment and manpower. First and foremost, the organization turned its attention and directed its efforts to the rebuilding of the newly liberated capital of the Negev, the ancient town of Beersheba, destined to become the center of the entire area. The rebuilding of that town was carried out in a large measure by Solei Boneh through its contracting facilities, quarrying enterprises, sanitary installation works and various workshops.

Twenty Days Later

Beersheba was liberated on October 22, 1948. Twenty days later, a branch of Solei Boneh was set up in the town and shortly thereafter, local branches of Even V'Sid and Haratz Ltd., affiliates of Solei Boneh, were established. This served as an impetus for other enterprises to open branches in the town, hastening the development of the Negev capital. The achievements of Solei Boneh were recognized when the manager of the local branch was unanimously elected the first Mayor of the town. He was subsequently to play a major role in its development.

Solei Boneh's activities were not confined to the Municipal boundaries of Beersheba but soon reached the southernmost settlement, Eilat, on the shores of the Red Sea. The contracting branch in Beersheba and its younger counterpart in Eilat served as centers of construction and development for the entire area.

The Beersheba branch can boast of the following accomplishments:

Immigrant housing 8,600 units (4,100 in Beersheba proper).

Small housing projects 1,350 units (700 in Beersheba proper).

Popular housing 260 units (all in Beersheba).

Housing in settlements 600 units.

Industrial buildings put up by Solei Boneh include the Kharsa factory for sanitary fixtures, the Makhteshim works for the production of chemicals, the Solei Boneh workshops, the flour mill of Hamashbir Hamercasi and factories for the production of various types of goods. Some of the most important public buildings in the town have been constructed by Solei Boneh. These include the central clinic, the Labour Exchange office, the local theatre and several kindergartens. Agricultural structures of various types have also been built by the company. Other

Solei Boneh achievements include roads such as the road to the Phosphate Works and part of the road to Be'er. While the workshops and garages set up by Solei Boneh in the town are primarily operated for the contracting work of the Company, they also serve development projects in the town and settlements in the surrounding area.

The widest field of activities of Solei Boneh in Beersheba and the Negev are the industrial and development projects in the area. It is here that the company and its subsidiary firms have constituted a pioneering force, operating in a planned and co-ordinated manner. Among its objectives in this field are the discovery and exploitation of natural resources by means of the most efficient and up-to-date methods, the setting up of plants close to the sources of these natural materials which would be capable of turning them into finished products or materials suitable for further manufacturing.

Self-Sufficiency

Along with this the company is striving to ensure the area complete self-sufficiency in the supply of building materials and other essential products and services. The area must be prepared to meet the needs of the population either in time of peace or war. To achieve these ends, Solei Boneh operates along two general lines—taking part in the search for metals, minerals and setting up industrial plants.

Among the important minerals to be found in the Makhteshim are quartz sand for the production of glass and ceramics and various metals. It has not yet been determined whether

about the possibilities of commencing quarrying operations in an efficient economic manner to meet the needs of the State. This operation was carried out by Solei Boneh and its subsidiary company, Even V'Sid Ltd., without interruption until the Government-owned firm, Makhteshim Yisrael, took it upon itself to continue the prospecting work. Through the Israel Oil Prospecting Company Ltd. and jointly with Lapidot Ltd., Solei Boneh began oil prospecting in the Dead Sea area at Masada.

Industrial Development

In the field of industry, development can be a major factor in the settlement of new areas according to a nationwide scheme. At the same time, expansion of industry can serve to make us economically self-sufficient and to raise our productive capacity to such an extent that we will be able to meet all our essential needs and conduct a profitable export trade in addition. Another important advantage to be gained from an expanded industry is the development of high technical skill among the nation.

Solei Boneh was among the leaders of these industrial firms which took upon themselves industrial expansion and, in so doing, the company did not neglect the part which the Negev was to play in these nationwide plans. The first project to be set up in the industrial area of Beersheba was the Kharsa factory, which produces sanitary equipment. This plant employs 150 workers, the majority of whom are immigrants who learn their skills in the shortest possible time. It is one of the



Students at Solei Boneh's vocational courses that have helped raise standards and trained skilled workers for pioneering tasks, in a remarkably short time.

the latter can economically be exploited. In the area around Eilat, rich sources of quartz are to be found, as well as granite and other minerals. These quarries, found in large areas of the Negev, serve the needs of local industry and will be a major factor in increasing exports in the future. This is especially true of the marble and granite quarries, which yield a decorative stone that has a considerable market abroad.

The activities of Solei Boneh in exploiting the mineral resources of the Negev actually pre-date the rise of the State and go back to the years 1942-48, when experts were sent out to the Negev and, in spite of all obstacles placed in their path by the Mandatory Government, succeeded in evaluating the possibilities of mining quartz for the Phoenicia Glass Works. Quarrying operations were actually begun in a primitive manner, and the material transported on camels by Beduin. But this operation did not become a practical reality until March 1949, when the Israel flag was raised over Eilat.

In that same month Solei Boneh sent a group of experts to the Southern Negev in order to

finest and most efficient ceramic plants anywhere, supplying national needs and exporting.

The plaster factory in Makhteshim Ramon, associated with Even V'Sid and Kibbutz Sde Boker, supplies industrial plaster of the finest quality for cement making and the production of many building materials. Among the future projects planned for the Beersheba area is a branch of the Koor factory, which will serve the needs of medium and heavy industry.

The land settlement movement of the Histadrut was and still is doing its utmost to exploit the agricultural potential of the Negev, but efforts in this direction can only be successful if industrial development takes place along with it. This requires a dynamic will. Only the expansion of manufacturing potential can supply the full solution to the development of the Negev, and in turn end our economic dependence on others. Solei Boneh, now as before, is ready to do its utmost for development, and is prepared and eager to join hands with any private or public bodies that wish to cooperate in its endeavors.



Gypsum extracted at Makhteshim Ramon, for the plaster of Paris factory which Solei Boneh operates in association with Even V'Sid and Sde Boker. Members of the well-known desert outpost, Sde Boker, operate the excavating machinery. Sde Boker itself is now joining the small network of kibbutzim that belong to the Scouts Federation.

Three Makhteshim Yield Rich Clay Deposits

By MICHAEL SKIDELSKY

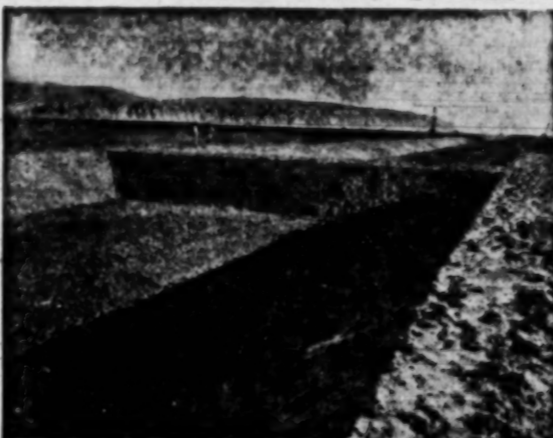
GEOLOGICAL surveys and exploration have revealed that the Negev is very rich in various clay deposits. These range in quality from the simplest potter's clay to the rich alumine clays used for the manufacture of quality china and refractories.

These clay deposits are largely concentrated in the three Makhteshim. Due to the absence of the need to the largest deposits in the Ramon, exploration and mining have been concentrated in the Makhtesh Hagadol, where exploitation began in 1950. The Makhteshim Clays are known in the industry as ball clays or fire clays and are being used for the manufacture of simple china, sanitary ware, art ware and medium-quality industrial fire bricks. They are also extensively used by the chemical and allied industries.

The present demand for these clays throughout the country is the vicinity of 8,000 tons per annum. Of this the chemical and allied industries take approximately 2,500 tons, and

those of the Makhtesh Hagadol, detailed exploration here is not taking place until next year. Due to the comparatively small demand for clays (about 30 tons per day of all types) it has been found that maximum mechanization would not be economical. The surface is cleared by bulldozers and excavators and the clay is mined by hand with the aid of pneumatic hammers. Loading is entirely by hand.

Twenty to 25 men are permanently employed. Half come from Kfar Yehoram, the rest from Beersheba and elsewhere. Prior to their arrival in Israel most of these men were traders and had no mining experience whatsoever. Their output was lamentably low and never



S'edom Salt pans at the Dead Sea Works. One of the construction jobs of Solei Boneh. The Dead Sea Works recently moved their head office from Jerusalem to Beersheba, so as to be nearer the plant itself. Other similar enterprises are expected to follow suit.

the balance goes to the ceramic and fire brick factories. The clays in the Ramon are on the whole of better quality than those of the Makhtesh Hagadol. Some of the beds have been fully explored and some thousands of tons have been shipped to the industry.

Mining and exploration have been concentrating for the present on the better quality of fire clays since the absence of a high-grade local fire brick has been badly felt by the local steel, glass and cement industries. This search has proved successful and high quality fire bricks have already been made by some of the local factories.

A geological survey of the Makhtesh Hagadol has proved the presence of clays similar to those of the Makhtesh Hagadol. Since at present this locality is very difficult to reach and the clays are of similar nature to reached more than 25 per cent of that of a European minor under similar conditions. Today it compares very favorably

with that of other countries and they represent a small hard core of regular clay miners in the country.

Plans for the future include the immediate construction of a clay washing plant in Beersheba that would guarantee uniform raw material, and the erection of two factories, one in Beersheba, for high-quality fire bricks and the second, in Dimona, for roof tiles and hollow building bricks.

With the completion of the above plants and the opening of the Beersheba railway the demand for clays is expected to rise sharply. Serious thought can then also be given to the possibility of export, since we will be in a position to guarantee uniform quality at world prices.

Photographers credits: S'edom Salt Pans and Makhtesh Ramon by Ch. and G. Meyer. Pictures on Page 10—Hodassah Photos, and Page 11—Ben Adl.

Good Glassmakers' Sand Found in the Negev

Michael Skidelsky, the author of the articles on Glassmakers' Sands and Negev Clays is one of the foremost mining engineers in the country. He comes of a family of coal mine owners in Manchuria. He studied at Cambridge and took his Engineering degree in China. Skidelsky worked and travelled all over the world. During World War II, he joined the British army as a private and finished up his army service as a major in India. In 1948 he bought an armoured transport for the Hagana in Europe and settled in Israel in 1949. After having worked for a short time in Haifa he moved to Beersheba. At present he is in charge of all mining operations in the Negev.

IN the early forties, when the country was very short of quartz sand, the basic material for the manufacture of glass, an Arab approached the Phoenicia Glass Works in Haifa with some samples of quartz sand which he offered to supply from the Negev.

Mr. A. Weiss, the Chief Engineer of Phoenicia, left immediately to investigate the possibilities. He found that the sand was located at a place called the Wadi

Hatira (now the Makhtesh Hagadol) some 50 kilometres south of Beersheba. At that time there were no roads, and no transport there, and to it all the Mandatory Authorities were very reluctant to allow any Jews to potter round these areas. Nothing further was done, and the glass manufacturers continued to import their sand from abroad, (mostly Belgium) and to pay for it through the nose.

Early in 1950, the Mayor of

Beersheba insisted that the deposits of the sand in the Wadi Hatira be again examined, in this he was strongly supported by Mr. Weiss. Following several meetings and discussions, Mr. Tuviah, Mr. Weiss, the writer of these lines and a strong guard, set out for the Makhtesh Hagadol, reaching it one morning in April 1950.

The writer reported that the deposits appeared large and of good quality—but that a detailed survey was required before any final conclusions could be drawn. Solei Boneh furnished the necessary funds and equipment and systematic exploration was started at the end of April 1950.

During this exploration over 300 tons were despatched to Phoenicia Glass Works in Haifa for testing on an industrial scale. The sand was excavated entirely by hand, put into old flour bags and shipped to Beersheba at enormous cost. Results exacted all expectations. Since 1951 no sand has been imported from abroad by the glass industry.

It is almost impossible to calculate accurately the enormous reserves available for exploitation in the Makhtesh Hagadol. The survey established that the reserves which can be economically exploited at the surface alone are well over 30m. tons.

The quarrying of this sand has been completely mechanized. The equipment consists of a bulldozer, a conveyor and a rotary screen, capable of loading up to 250 tons of screened sand a day. Two workers can handle this equipment in full operation.

Since 1953, about 1,000 tons a month have been shipped from the Makhtesh. The demand is expected to remain stable for some time. The glass industry requires 10,000 to 11,000 tons per annum, the ceramic industry 500 to 800, and the others 200 to 300 tons per annum.

Recent trials here and abroad have proved that after a simple process of washing and screening the sand can be used for the manufacture of anything from the plainest bottle glass to the finest of optical glasses. A washing and screening plant, to be built in Beersheba, very soon, will have a capacity of 15,000 tons per annum of washed and screened sand on a one-shift basis. When it is completed, Israel will possibly be in a position to export the finest qualities of glassmaker's sand.

There are also unlimited quantities of glassmaker's sands in the vicinity of Eilat. These have been partially explored, but much work is still required before an accurate estimate can be drawn up. Due to their proximity to the port these sands are expected to become an important export item to the East in the not too distant future.

Popular Housing

The feeling of space, green lawns and trees are the guiding principles in Beersheba town planning including the Shikun Amami.



Keeping Well Kupa Holim at Beersheba serves the whole surrounding area. Another of Solei Boneh's building achievements in the Negev capital.

High Technical Skill at Kharsa

IN 1950, it was decided to set up the Kharsa works. Construction began in 1952; and two years later the factory went into production. The project extends over an area of 130 dunams. The equipment, which was brought over from the United States, ranks with the best in the world. The enterprise consists of six departments for the production of such sanitary ware as kitchen sinks and wash basins, and two departments, which provide the

finishing touches on porcelain tiles, houseware, etc.

The factory turns out some 10,000 high quality articles a month, produced in tunnel-shaped ovens 75 metres long.

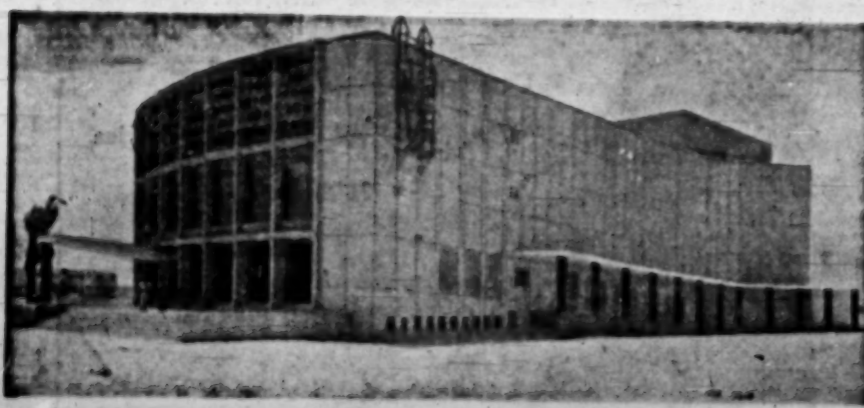
The plant's personnel has exhibited unusual vocational and professional ability, achieving in a relatively short time (three years) a high degree of technical skill with the aid of a small staff from the Kharsa factory in Haifa and two experts from abroad. In many countries, including those with highly de-

veloped ceramic industries, ten years or more are required to overcome the initial difficulties of such a delicate manufacturing process. In addition the firm has been able to deal with problems of climate, as well as those relating to the adaptation of local materials of which it makes use for a large part of its production.

In the Kharsa plant, as in other enterprises of Solei Boneh, set up in new settlements, methodical instruction in various aspects of production is given to workers and foremen.



Streamlined The production line at Kharsa turns out 10,000 quality pieces of sanitary ware a month. U.S. equipment ranks this factory with the best.



Known Beersheba's cinema—this beautiful building, built by Solei Boneh, fits perfectly into the landscape. It is the second largest theatre in the country.

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THE magnitude of the problems arising from a jump of eight points in the cost-of-living index, the greatest since devaluation caused increases of 12 points in both March and April 1952, can be gauged from the fact that, if a corresponding increase in allowances is to follow, this will gravely affect the national economy. In 1953 — the last year for which figures are available — the share of earners of wages and salaries in the total national income of IL1,401m. was 58.4 per cent, and it is estimated that it has risen slightly in the meantime. The national payroll, therefore, exceeds IL2,000m. of which, according to a recent statement by the Minister of Finance, the Government alone has to find IL1,355m. a year for its employees.

It is easy to imagine the consternation this latest development must have caused not only in the Treasury whose budgetary provisions would be upset, but throughout the economic fabric. Industry and agriculture, whether private or collective, will find it difficult to maintain competitive prices, and exports will become even more problematical.

Both the original (1942) and the 1951 index are based on sample "food baskets" from workers' family budgets. The first question therefore will have to be whether this form of sampling continues to be accurate or acceptable. The 1951 sampling did not include either villages or kibbutzim, mabarot or new immigrants' settlements. This alone suggests that the sample cannot be representative. And who finally, is the typical average worker? In a recent judgment, one of England's leading Law Lords pointed out that a complete revolution had taken place in this respect, which made the term "working class" quite inappropriate in modern conditions. If this is true in England, how much more so in this country!

Apart from this, there is the intricate problem of selecting commodities and services which may be considered essential for an average family budget. The tendency seems to have been to include in the seven basic groups of expenditure as many separate items as possible, exceeding by far the 130 listed in the first index. Here, the question might be asked whether a completely new approach is not indicated, and whether it would not be more reasonable and economically sounder to confine the list to items that must be bought rather than items that may be bought. It is this minimum to which every man is entitled, and which he must be enabled to buy out of his pay packet, even at the cost of damage to the State's economy, and even where, in the case of emergency employment for immigrants, the work is not highly productive. The superstructure of comfortable living can be supplied only from genuine productivity and earnings, not from allowances.

Any revision of the index must also consider the rigidity of the "weight" accorded to individual items, the impact of subsidies and price controls, or the consequences of such artificial measures, as the discrimination between morning and afternoon newspapers, resulting in price control for morning papers only. If we re-enter the inflationary spiral, the living standards so carefully built up during the past two years will be shattered, allowances or no allowances. It will now take a concerted effort to prevent this, and the lead will have to come from the Government, in the form of an index system that prevents waste together with hardship. We cannot afford a new inflation at the present time, when security needs have suddenly become pressing again and when our currency is on the world markets approaching its nominal value for the first time in years, with improved hopes of investments.

LABOUR NOT A COMMODITY Wages in Modern Society

By GERDA LUFT

GONE are the days when labour was simply looked upon as a commodity to be sold and bought according to its market value, following the law of supply and demand. They are gone in free Western countries, where trade unionism has increased the bargaining power of the worker. They are gone in the countries behind the Iron Curtain, where wages are fixed by an all-powerful government. They are gone even in many of the countries where trade unionism has not yet found its place. International conventions do not allow full play to the harsh law that would let wages sink to the "subsistence level".

It is, of course, open to discussion whether the law of supply and demand ever held absolute sway with regard to all commodities. Even in the period of full economic liberalism it served better as a theory than as a practical guide to policy. But, the assumption that wages were determined by supply and demand involved the liberal economic and social philosophy of the 19th century. It was a "fair" or a "rational" wage policy. Things were left to the "invisible hand" of the economic forces which were believed to govern the economic behaviour of employers and employees and to which the social and political order was supposed to adjust itself. If labour is plentiful, it was argued, wages will go down and thus jobs will be available for more workers. If wages go up employers will be able to give work to fewer people and this will bring them down again.

"Agreed Rates" It is evident that this is no longer true in developed countries — if ever it was. It might be of interest to note that even the definition of wages in American textbooks and manuals, for example reflects changed conditions and modified notions. A wage or salary rate is an "agreed upon rate of compensation for a definite period of time for a specific assignment of duties and responsibilities." Wages and salaries are defined as "total compensation for services rendered, including both direct and indirect payments." Direct payments mean "an agreed-upon wage or salary rate for a definite job-assignment plus incentives or commission plus earnings for productivity where applicable." And indirect payments include such items as "supplementary compensation for which no additional productivity is required, including above the agreed wage or salary rate, premium pay, overtime pay, holidays, night shifts, bonuses, vacations, profit-sharing, cost-of-living allowances.

All these definitions are nothing but the reflection of the important fact that today, wages are the outcome of agreement, generally between powerful organizations, and that they are composed of a number of items which would have surprised both the worker and the employer — as recently as 30 years ago. The complex wage packet is the result of a new social status which is not content to let everybody earn whatever he can but means to safeguard at the same time a certain standard of living and social services for all. This is reflected particularly in the indirect payments.

It is significant that the definitions quoted above, designed for the use of managers in American industry, as well as to wages. This is the result of the set-up of modern industry, with its heavy investments and its complicated hierarchy of posts; and of the fact that the labour leaders are organized in labour unions. When Britain built up a national health service after World War II it was not only the physicians became government employees, they had to organize in order to protect their material interests. There are in Britain unions of professional civil servants; of chief officers of local authority departments; of actors; of doctors.

Theatre Notes
Illusion and Disillusion
Habimah presents Henry IV by Louis F. Pinter. Directed by Zvi Friedland. Designed by Marcel Tarkenton. Set by Barak Kadish.
G O I N G to Habimah can be a very frustrating experience. You go to see what you know is a good play. You enter an attractive theatre with comfortable seats and good air-conditioning with high expectations. The curtain goes up on a beautiful setting which is lighted with technical skill. The actors are made up with artistic perfection and are beautifully costumed. Their grouping and movement on the stage are almost faultless. You know that the actors are good, or at least competent. Your spirits rise. This is theatre as it should be. The play begins and somehow, along the line your spirits begin to sag and you feel that you have been let down. You continue to remain aware of all of the high professional trappings while the play unfolds and gradually dispels your high expectations. This is what happened at the presentation of Pinter's Henry IV. It is a good play — a Hebrew play. The setting seemed just right and all of the mechanics were workmanlike and good. But the whole affair just misses being right.

There is an organization of Supervisory Staff executives and technicians: there is a "Non-Manual Workers Council." And many of these associations belong to the Trade Union Congress, which is the "underprivileged" only. When the invisible hand of economic necessity vanishes so does the regulator of wages, and the question must arise on what principle wages are to be fixed. There are three possibilities: wages can be determined by the employer, they can be agreed upon by negotiation through collective bargaining, or they can be fixed by the decisions of official bodies like the statutory boards which are constituted from time to time in Britain in order to deal with specific wage problems.

Then there is the problem of what principle is to be followed by these institutions. Are they to be concerned first of all with the protection of the national economy, with fixing wages so as to encourage output? Or is their first concern to be to turn over to the workers an important part of the national income? Must they not place one of these above the other, and if they clash which one is to receive priority? Should there be differentials between various jobs be kept at the present level, increased, reduced? Is the economic order to be maintained by the continued raising of the standard of living of the community or is there a ceiling to this upward movement? Is the equality of the final goal of a wage policy? These are some of the questions which arise once the problem of new machinery and new methods of production, but in the hierarchy of wages they will be honoured long after that. At the present time the raising of certain skills will result in high remuneration for those who first succeed in mastering them. It would be futile to look for logic in the wage or salary scales for different professions. They are as often the result of the social esteem in which the performer of a certain task was held at one time as of the present economic worth of the work he does.

It may even be doubted whether we are ever able to measure the economic worth of an individual job accurately. In an industrial society, where capital, management, technology and labour must cooperate without a hitch in order to maintain high output, it is almost impossible to calculate the economic value of the various components. (This is the first of a series of articles.)

Reader's Letters

NAZI WAR CRIMINAL
Editor, The Jerusalem Post
Sir — Regarding the item "Nazi on Trial for Murder of 154 Jews" in your issue of October 6, I would like to ask anybody who thinks that he will be able to give evidence against a former Nazi to contact me. I have in my possession five pictures of war criminals, supplied by the State Attorney in Oldenburg, out of which one minor will have to be identified by the prospective witness. Pinter was apparently active in the Buchenwald area, but the picture is not clear and it is appearing now under a false name.

Yours, etc.
V. SIGEL
Advocate
Haifa, October 17.

THIS WEEK...

Foreign Relations A call for arms was made by Prime Minister Sharet when he opened the foreign policy debate at the inauguration of the winter session of the Knesset. The call was made against a background of increased tension on the borders, war-like talk in the Arab countries and inaction in the capitals of the Big Powers on growing Communist influence in the area resulting from the Egyptian-Czech arms deals. Voluntary contributions began to pour in, a counterpart to the campaign for contributions for weapons currently being conducted in Egypt. In reply to the debate Mr. Sharet warned Russia that she alone was responsible for the arms race. Egyptian dictator Nasser, sounding as though he had just had a "brainwashing," announced his fight was no longer against only Israel but against "international Jewry" and "Jewish wealth" as well. Meanwhile, Egypt and Syria were concentrating troops on the borders, and completed the draft of an anti-Israel military pact. The tension along the Syrian frontier was obviously planned as a series of incidents broke out in a ten-day period, including the kidnapping of an Israeli soldier from Kibbutz Gonen, Maj. Gen. Burns, Chief Troop Supervisor, reported to a railway point eight kilometres away. Egypt's firing on two U.N. military personnel, who were investigating incidentally enough an Egyptian complaint against Israel, in the Nitzana Demilitarized Zone along the international frontier. Word from Washington that Secretary of State Dulles would bring up the whole Middle East problem at a meeting in Geneva with Foreign Minister Molotov. Meanwhile, the U.S. gave a cool reception to Israel's request for arms equal to those being given Egypt by the Czechs. No arms had been offered by the Eastern bloc to Israel, it was officially announced in Jerusalem.

Condition The presentation of the new Government was postponed when the Prime Minister-designate fell ill with a severe case of vertigo caused by an inner ear condition. By week's end he had improved sufficiently to get up from his sickbed.

Development Oil found in the second deposit at Belet was said to be of a superior quality than that found in the first deposit. A pipeline capable of carrying 120 tons daily is to be built within three weeks from the oil site to a railway point eight kilometres away. A delegation of 60 United Jewish Appeal leaders arrived to study problems created by mass immigration from North Africa.

Economy The Cost-of-Living Index rose by eight points in September, the largest single increase since April 1952.

VISITORS' GALLERY



WILLIAM ROSENWALD, President of the UJA, the President of the UJA, a leading figure for more than a decade and a half in mobilizing American aid in behalf of victims of war and oppression. From 1951 through 1954, he served as General Chairman of the UJA's campaign of Annual Campaign of the UJA, of greater New York. He has also served continuously as Chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee since 1945. Additionally he is a member of the National Committee of Israel Bonds.

Leaders of UJA Study Delegation



EDWARD L. WARBURG, Chairman of the UJA Study Delegation, a leading figure for more than a decade and a half in mobilizing American aid in behalf of victims of war and oppression. From 1951 through 1954, he served as General Chairman of the UJA's campaign of Annual Campaign of the UJA, of greater New York. He has also served continuously as Chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee since 1945. Additionally he is a member of the National Committee of Israel Bonds.

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RABBI HERBERT A. FRIEDMAN, Executive Vice-Chairman of the UJA, a leading figure for more than a decade and a half in mobilizing American aid in behalf of victims of war and oppression. From 1951 through 1954, he served as General Chairman of the UJA's campaign of Annual Campaign of the UJA, of greater New York. He has also served continuously as Chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee since 1945. Additionally he is a member of the National Committee of Israel Bonds.

Mr. Warburg was first elected to JDC leadership in 1941 but resigned to enlist in the U.S. Army. Rising from the rank of private to major, he helped direct the establishment of religious centres caring for the Jewish victims liberated by the Army in Europe. In 1945 he returned home to devote himself fully to the UJA and the JDC. In 1954 he attended the Jerusalem Economic Conference at the invitation of Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion.

He is also a member of the National Board of Directors of the Israel Bond Organization. This summer he made a personal five-week survey of UJA-financed programmes in Europe, North Africa and Israel. In 1953 he attended the Jerusalem Economic Conference at the invitation of Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion.

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RUSSIA'S CO-EXISTENCE DRIVE IN SPAIN

By RICHARD MOWLER

MADRID. — UNDAUNTED by the Franco regime's vaunted anti-Communism, the Soviet Union is trying to neutralize Spain — and the American bases here. The wooing process started early in 1954. Lately, it has become more intense. The signs are unmistakable. Here they are:

Spring of 1954: Russia released 250 Blue Division prisoners. (The Blue Division was a Spanish contribution to Nazi Germany's war effort.)

1954-55: Commercial exchanges are developed between Spain and countries of the Soviet bloc. The Spanish trade journal, "El Economista," reports the conclusion of an arrangement whereby Spain imports 200,000 tons of coal from Poland in exchange for 200,000 tons of Spanish iron ore.

Greatly Advantageous The government publication "Estadística del Comercio Exterior de España" reveals that between July and December, 1954, Hungary and Czechoslovakia traded with Spain. The publisher's figures show that the exchanges were extraordinarily favourable to Spain — irresistibly so, in fact. Thus, the Spanish exported surplus wine to Hungary to the value of 365,979 gold pesetas and imported from Hungary in exchange, nothing. Spain sold to Czechoslovakia canned fish valued at 254,867 gold pesetas but imported from Czechoslovakia only 20,810 gold pesetas' worth of goods, mainly chemical products.

Spring of 1955: Two representatives of the Soviet Government arrive in Madrid as delegates to an international congress on standardization of ball bearings. The fact that Spain has no diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union or any other Communist country is no obstacle: the Soviet Union is in coexistence with everybody, including General Franco. Always keen for prestige reasons, to be selected as a meeting place for international gatherings, Madrid lets the two Russians in (and details two policemen to keep an eye on them).

Summer of 1955: At a meeting of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) the U.S.S.R. and Czechoslovakia do not oppose a motion inviting Spanish participation.

Autumn of 1955: Soviet Foreign Minister Vyacheslav Molotov tells a Spanish correspondent at the United Nations that the Russian proposal for a European security pact naturally includes Spain, if Spain cares to join. This statement is accompanied by a beaming smile and a warm handshake for the Spanish newspaperman, who happens to represent the bitterly anti-Soviet Falangist publication, "Arriba."

These are the facts, in date, of Russian endeavours to soften up Spain. It seems there are more to come. It is reported from Paris that Soviet diplomats there have sought to establish direct contact with the Spanish Embassy, take a view of developing trade between the two countries.

Three Aces In the matter of offering economic inducements to Spain, the Soviet Union is in a strong position for these reasons:

1. Moscow holds \$400m. worth of gold which the Spanish Republic shipped to Czechoslovakia during the Civil War. This was four-fifths of what Spain had in 1938. Today her gold reserve is down to \$10m. If she recovers something like four times this amount would be a sensational stroke of good fortune. Less than a year ago the Russians set a precedent as regards the handing back of gold belonging to others: they returned eleven tons of the precious metal to Persia.

2. Spain is in the grip of a textile crisis. Production costs have gone up. Japan is again a strong competitor in the world market and her latest stocks of Catalan cloth are piling up in warehouses with no buyers in sight. Factories cannot drastically reduce production because the labour law bars dismissal of employees. There is a desperate need for foreign markets. Citrus exporters also may soon need new outlets for the orange crop this year looks as though it will be a record-breaker.

3. Spain is dissatisfied with the amount of economic aid she is receiving. Government officials have said so on various occasions and the theme has been echoed in the State-controlled press. Some months ago, "Arriba" put it this way:

If the average Spaniard sees that American aid is not followed by an improvement in his standard of living, he will regard the Americans as a dream, and that very quickly. If after having squandered fabulous amounts of Marshall Plan aid in Europe without any notable results, he were to be denied what is indispensable, the great programme of aid and mutual cooperation, would he be averse to it?

Having incorporated Spain in their "let's be friends" campaign, the Russians can be expected to exploit fully the considerations listed above as a means to an end, the end being to detach Spain from economic dependence on the United States and tempt the Spanish back to their traditional neutrality, thus depriving America of the Iberian bases complex now being built.

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UNITED NATIONS Opposition To U.S. Atom Plan

By PATRICK O'DONOVAN

WASHINGTON, (UPI). — THE United States plan for setting up an international agency to control the peaceful uses of atomic energy has run into some opposition in the United Nations. The draft statute for the agency which had been composed of eight friendly Powers, who had either atomic know-how or atomic raw materials, had been circulated confidentially among United Nations members asking only for their comments.

The statute set out to establish the agency rather as the World Bank is established. It would have a board of governors of 16 countries, 10 of them being charter members, that would reflect but not mirror the views of the dominating Powers. It would be practical and business-like and not at the mercy of conflicting nationalisms or conflicting views of what is good for people. It is not settled whether it would be only a clearing house for paper transactions or a centre for the distribution of nuclear materials. The Political Committee of the United Nations had only been asked to note with satisfaction that a statute has been put forward, not to debate or amend its provisions. The board of the agency would later negotiate its precise relationship with the United Nations, which in its 1946 General Assembly refused to take part in its creation has now agreed that negotiations should be started outside the United Nations for the establishment of such an agency, but stipulated that it should be subject to the Security Council, thus making it subject to the veto. India would have the agency subject to the General Assembly, and has dubbed the United States plan "atomic imperialism."

But the U.S. with Britain, Canada, France, Belgium and Portugal, intends to go ahead with a series of diplomatic negotiations, inviting 14 nations to choose to join the agency, which should be established early next year. Not many will feel that they can afford to refuse, and as if the United Nations cannot stop this one.

At the Cinema

"MARTY" (opening at the Tamar, T.A.) was the first American film to win the coveted Grand Prize at Cannes, probably because it is so European in treatment and atmosphere. It is the story of the simple life of a butcher in routine surroundings. Marty is a butcher who meets a plain-looking girl — and feels happy about her. What makes the European about the film more obvious is the fact that Marty — played with verve by Ernest Borgnine — is an Italian American. Volubility is natural to him, he is in touch with his feelings by Clara — played by Betsy Blair — who is more sternly educated. The director, Delbert Mann, manages to endow Clara's plainness with an elated beauty all her own. The photography is perfect. The story and screenplay are by Paddy Chayefsky, who also acts as associate producer. B.M.

TIME ON SALE TODAY

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